



STRANGE TIMES

2023 INDIANHEAD

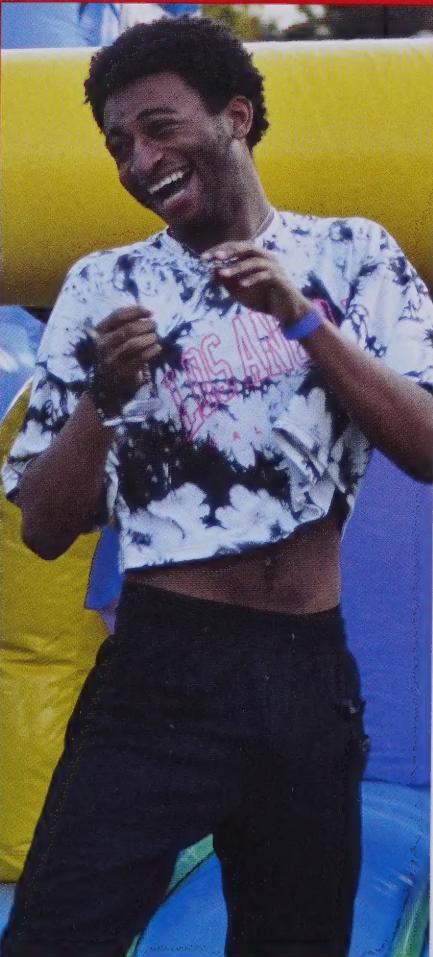
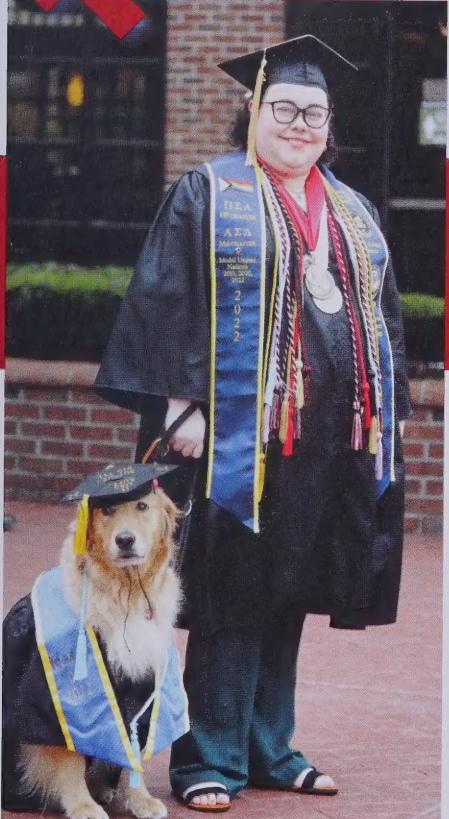


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INDIANHEAD

**STRANGE
TIMES**



2023

VOL. 78

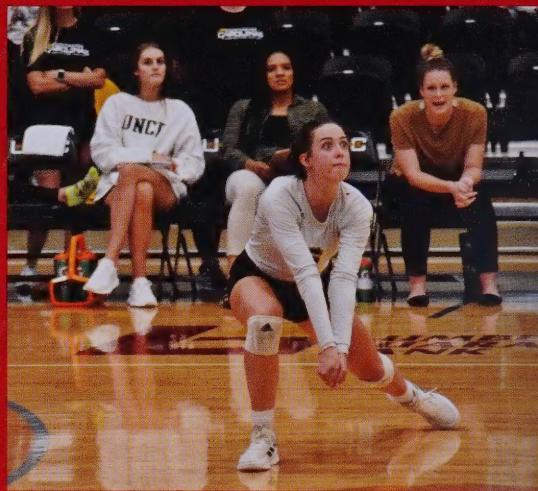
The University
of North Carolina
at Pembroke

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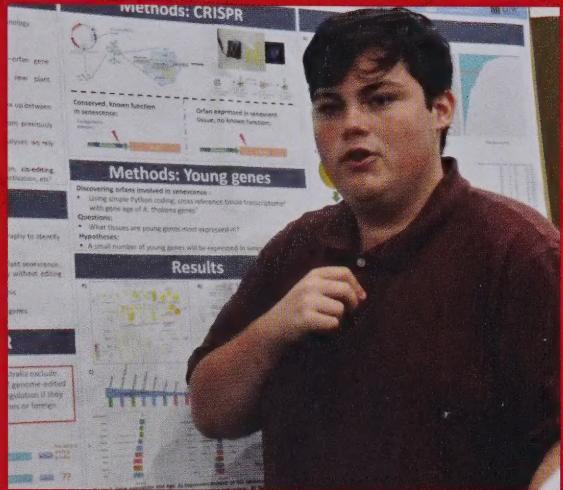


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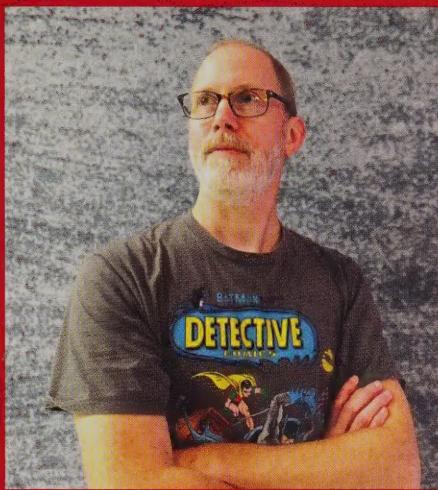




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STRANGE TIMES

This year we held a vote to let the student body decide on the yearbook theme. The winning theme was "Strange Times." Let's face it: these are strange times. While we are hoping to close the chapter on the COVID-19 virus, it still lingers with the occasional surge, so face masks are still used in many settings and still seen on campus. We started the school year with the threat of "monkey pox" that was spreading in some cities, although the virus quickly receded. Many Americans were gripped by the "January 6" Congressional hearings on TV, and we are facing the largest inflation rate in nearly 40 years. The unemployment rate was down to 3.5 percent in December, but people are talking about "quiet quitting" from their tedious or stressful jobs.

In choosing the theme, students reveal they're leery about what's
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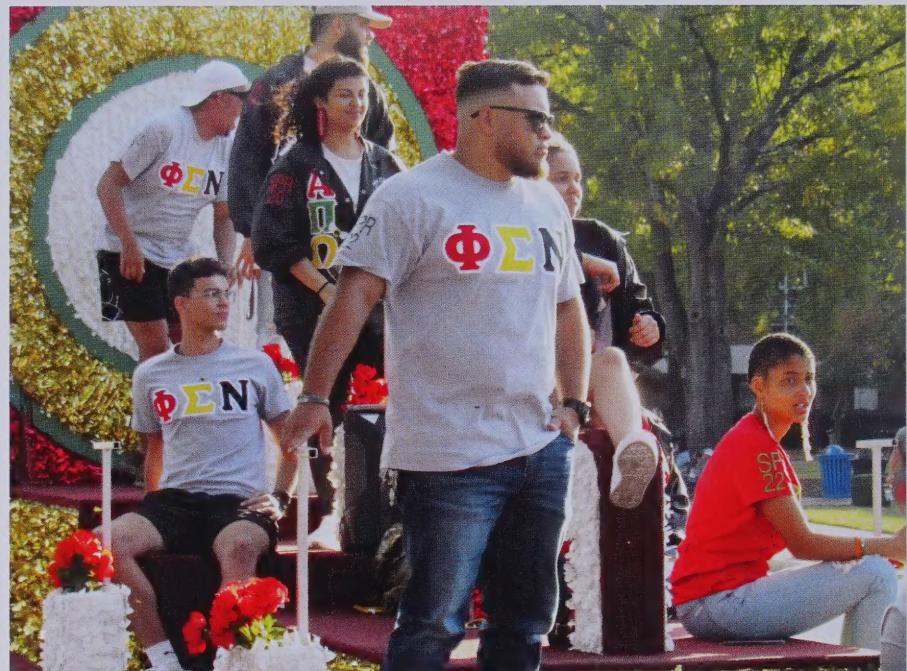
coming next. After two years many students are getting their first “normal” college experience, and they hope it can remain this way. Yet college enrollment nationwide continues to decline. So, if we’ve learned anything in recent years, it’s that you can’t be too sure. Should we brace for impact or revel in the now?

Maybe we should ask ChatGPT to answer this question for us! (We could have used a similar artificial intelligence to generate our cover art, but we chose the real deal in grad student Allison Ellis.) These truly are *strange times*.

You’ll notice we continued this theme in our profile interviews that are featured throughout the book. We asked, “What’s the strangest thing that’s ever happened to you at UNCP?” The answers may surprise you.

Our color scheme in this volume of the Indianhead is inspired in part by the color palette of popular Netflix series “Stranger Things,” which dropped its fourth season in two parts last summer. You’ll find the electrified red, orange, and blue of their marketing materials used liberally on many of our pages. Enjoy!

(Below) The Homecoming Parade on Thursday afternoon of Spirit Week included many student organizations on floats, including Phi Sigma Nu.



(Above and Above Right) Hired performers and inflatable obstacles entertained students and community members during Festival at Old Main on April 23, 2022. (Right) Phylencia Latney of the Office for Community and Civic Engagement volunteered to help freshmen move into their residence halls on the Saturday before classes started in August.



MEET THE ARTIST



Allison Rebecca Ellis (B.S. '11, M.A. '22)

About our cover artist:

Allison Ellis held her master's degree capstone art exhibit in October in the A.D. Gallery in Locklear Hall, where we first discovered her prints, such as our cover piece, the woodcut "Delusional" (also shown below). Allison is an elementary school art teacher in Columbus County who also earned her bachelor's degree at UNCP. She completed her M.A. in Art Education and graduated in December. She has said that her art-making process is an inquiry of many resources, inspirations, prior knowledge and research to build her creativity. We found the surrealism in many of her pieces to be fitting illustrations of this year's theme, "Strange Times," and we're grateful for permission to use one of the works, although it was hard to choose just one!



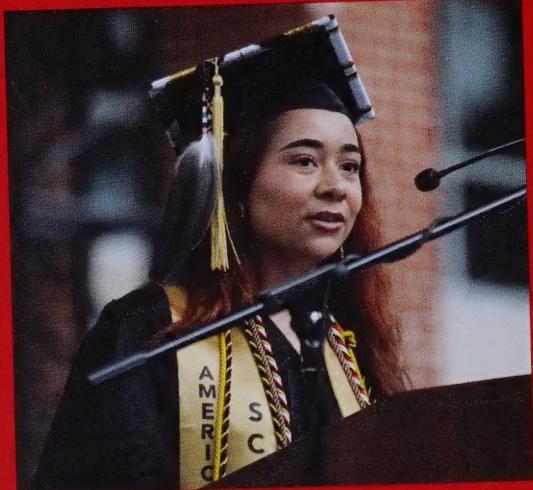
(Below) Allison Ellis discusses her work at her exhibit's reception.



Allison said art has always been a passion for her because of how therapeutic it feels for her to express herself. She often expresses herself through non-typical self-portraits that are windows into her life story, but they are open to alternate interpretations by the viewers. Her show featured both woodcuts and linocuts and ran concurrently in the gallery with the work of another graduate student, Taylor Styles (shown later in this book), from Sept. 28 - Oct. 21, 2022.



- 1) SGA President Dana Hunt-Locklear addresses students at May graduation.**
- 2) RA Madison Schwenneker enjoys Spirit Fest with 1887 Society candidate Aspen Andersson.**
- 3) LaDavien Simon is ready to enjoy the Homecoming bonfire.**
- 4) Francisco Hernandez plays pool regularly at the Hawk's Nest.**
- 5) Abraham Lopez is goalkeeper for the club soccer team.**



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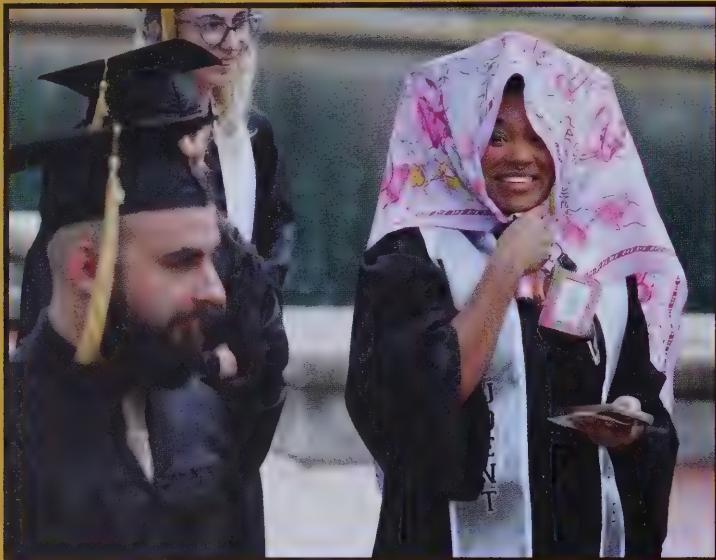
STUDENT LIFE



Learning to face a new reality as Covid-19 moves from pandemic to endemic is strange. There's still a mixture of masks and no-masks on campus, depending on the person and the situation. This year Village Apartments were closed for maintenance that proved to be more extensive than first thought, the Housing office moved twice, and now the UC is called SC (for "Student Center"). By spring nearly all courses were 75 minutes long, with few on Friday, which should help commuters, who saw gas prices hit an average high of \$4.67 per gallon in North Carolina last summer.

UNCP students find ways to make these strange times enjoyable. In newly found free time they enjoy campus recreation, entertainment, crafts, dining and simply bonding with peers—creating memories and friendships to last a lifetime.

Below: Spirit Squad member Jasmine Smith protects her mortarboard and hair from the rain.



Above: Morgan Buffington was a dancer on the Spirit Squad and a double-major in criminal justice and sociology.

It's



Raining Degrees!

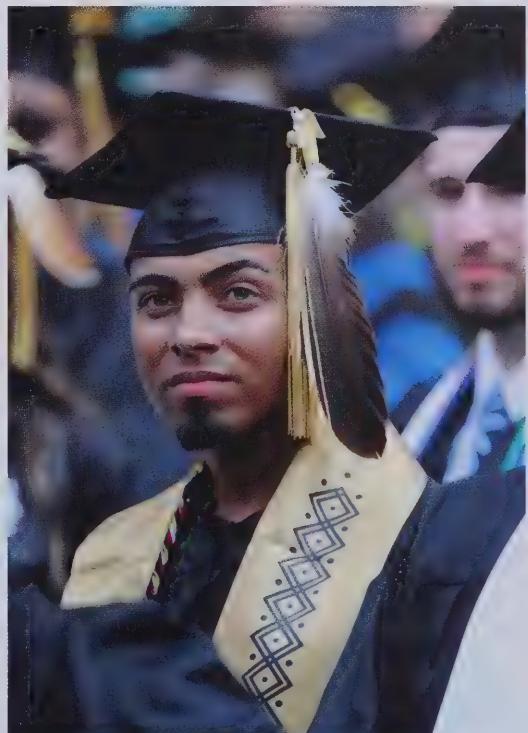
Periodic rain could not dampen the spirits of those who gathered on the Quad between Livermore Library and Old Main on Saturday, May 14, for UNC Pembroke's 2022 Spring Undergraduate Commencement. Cheered on by families and friends, the graduates crossed the stage as 762 bachelor's degrees were awarded. Graduate students took part in a separate ceremony in the GPAC on Friday evening, May 13, where 315 master's degrees were conferred.

Hilda Pinnix-Ragland, a senior Fortune 500 business executive, served as the keynote speaker for both ceremonies. She recently served as an energy consultant for Duke Energy and vice president of Corporate Public Affairs with Progress Energy. She encouraged the graduates to be authentic, remain confident and always dare to try new things.

"You are ready. You are prepared," Pinnix-Ragland said. "You are on a path that is so successful. You are the most technologically savvy, educated class we've seen in history. Stay focused on who you are, your attitude, health, and value. And along the way, always treat people with respect and dignity."

Also on Saturday, retired Lumbee Guaranty Bank CEO and 1972 graduate Larry Chavis was awarded an honorary doctorate during a special presentation. Chavis served as president and CEO for more than 30 years and was inducted into the North Carolina Banking Hall of Fame in 2021.

During his closing remarks, Chancellor Robin Gary Cummings encouraged graduates to make good decisions. "Life is about making good decisions," Cummings said. "You made a great decision to get your degree. And despite a pandemic and, for some, perhaps financial and family challenges, you persisted. In the days, months and years ahead, you will face important decisions. From this day forward, the road beyond UNCP will be defined by you. I encourage you to choose to fight, persist, adapt and persevere throughout life's circumstances."



Above: Jolan Locklear wears the stole he received at the American Indian heritage ceremony for graduates.

Braving the Crowds, Braving the Weather

1) **Stephanie Berntsen**, who enjoyed Model United Nations while majoring in political science, marches with her service dog Warren. 2) Football player **Ben Jaramillo** catches the photographer's attention before conferral of his biology degree. 3) **Yaqot Nasser** has earned an Early Assurance Scholarship at the ECU Brody School of Medicine. 4) Basketball player **Tyrell Kirk** flashes two championship rings and contemplates a career in Europe. 5) Volleyball player **Brianna Warren** celebrates graduation but will be back for another season. 6) Wrestler Ryan Monk hopes to become a college coach. 7) **Dr. Namyeon Lee** and **Ms. Cle Cousins** of the Department of Mass Communication come out to support the graduates at Saturday's ceremony.

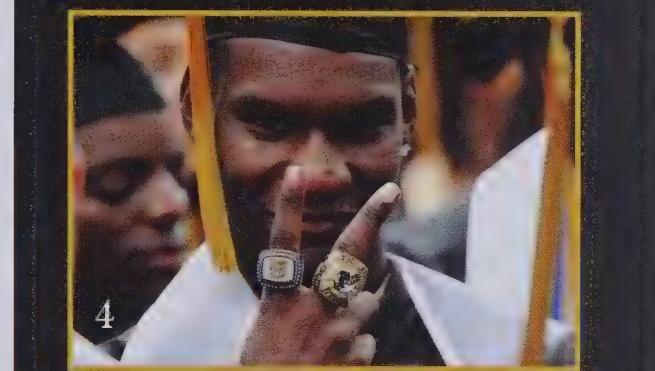
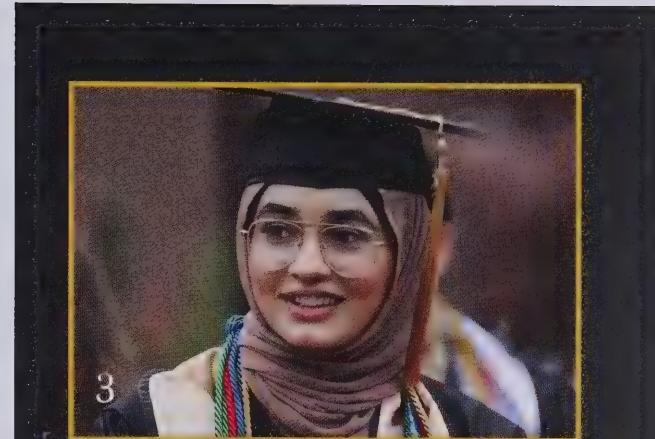
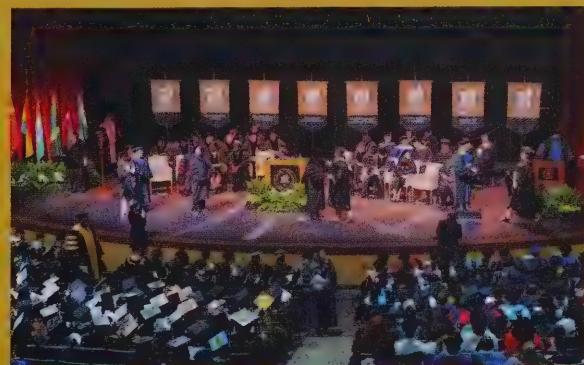
--Photos by University Communications & Marketing



Achieving Mastery

The graduates pictured on the right are among those who received master's degrees at the Spring 2022 Graduate Commencement in the Givens Performing Arts Center on Friday, May 13. Dr. Irene Aiken, Dean of the Graduate School, performs her duty of "hooding" the master's degree candidates in the many disciplines.





Volunteers and staff from many departments helped with the logistics and physical labor of getting new students into their residence halls on Saturday, Aug. 13, 2022. Families in their vehicles got as close as they could to their designated drop-off stations to unload while their freshmen checked-in. Braves wrestler **Jake Piccirilli** (right) served as captain of a team of movers. Below, resident advisers were able to confirm room assignments and provide keys and instructions to the newest members of Brave Nation.



(L to R, above) Braves football players Ethan Benson, Landon Johnson and Nick Melchiorre are a huge help with unloading cars. (Right) Resident Adviser Ashley Arriaga keeps the flow going with her announcements and directions.



FRESHMAN MOVE-IN



Student-athletes, grad assistants and resident advisers help to keep the entire project moving smoothly and safely on this beautiful summer day that marks the beginning of Welcome Week.



1) Lilly Clausen quickly gets her room set up during Freshman Move-in Day.

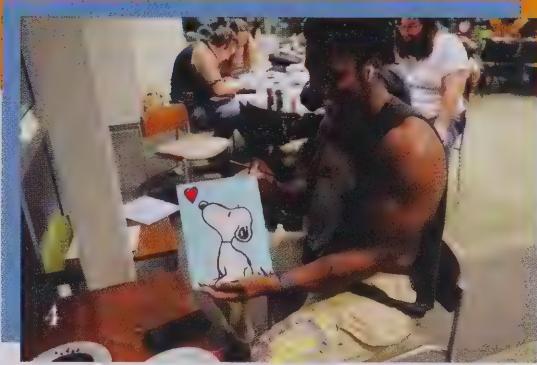
2) David Briggs is inspired by pop culture in his university apartment.

3) Nursing major Kayla Ruiz paints the main character from the Cinnamoroll series at a painting party.

4) Snoopy could make anybody feel at home.

5) RA Mason Schwenneker seeks inspiration at the Cypress Hall painting party while swimmer Gretchen Gillenwater has already made progress on hers.





Making the Strange Familiar

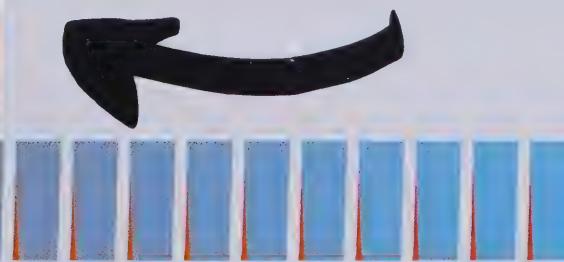
Students like to make their strange new surroundings feel more like home while also being able to do their own thing. Lilly Clausen (above and facing page) says her room on campus represents her and her hobbies and other things she enjoys. "The inspiration for my room was 90s hip hop and artsy vibes," she said. "My favorite part of my room is a collection of my own artwork on display."

Biology major David Briggs (facing page) opted for university apartment-style living and decorated his bedroom to suit his own interests. "I decided to take the things that the world has ridiculed but that I love and put them on my walls," he said. "Things like rap, anime, Star Wars and comic book superheroes are things that inspire me. My favorite part of my room would probably be either my Kanye flag or rap magazine cover collage wall."

It was strange to see UNCP's Village Apartments closed for maintenance and renovation this year, but there was still plenty of campus housing to go around, despite the new sophomore residency requirement.



Residence Life held a painting party at Cypress Hall on Sept. 21 where residents could make something quick and easy to decorate their rooms. Resident advisers try to have fun programming so students can have a break from school and develop a sense of community.



The View

Commons

Pointe

698 Prospect

Hunter's Run

The Lofts

Pembroke Square

College Terrace

Dial Terrace

Scott's

Biology major Devyn Brandt displays her love of all things botanical in her apartment across the street from campus.

"I've just always liked plants, so when I bought my first one I ended up getting more," she said. "I don't know if I have a green thumb, but plants always grow so well for me. I don't think I do anything in particular to get them to grow the way they do. But for me they make the room feel alive and comforting. It feels cold without them, so they're always a necessity for any space I'm in."



INSPO

"I just took things that I liked that I found while I was thrifting and put them on the wall, and they just worked."

-Devyn Brandt



Above: Senior Abigail Chabala and her dog Toby appreciate that the commercial apartment complexes near campus allow residents to have pets. *Right:* The unified color scheme in Abigail's apartment came together almost by accident, from the living room decor to the linens to the dishes.

Above: Devyn Brandt hosts junior Kristian Johnson, another biology major, for a card game in her apartment, while her cat Venus tries to steal the spotlight.



THE COMFORT ZONE

"You are about to enter another dimension. . . .

Next stop, the Comfort Zone!" Courtyard Apartments are the middle ground between commercial apartments and university residence halls. Pool, picnic areas, and all the perks of residence-life programming make this complex one of the best choices for students at UNCP. It's convenient to Student Health Services, the Campus Garden, and Weinstein Health Sciences Building, and not too far from Sampson Hall.

Hannah Scrattish (pictured) and her roommate Lindsay Branch live in one of the 24 two-bedroom two-bath units and say they're truly enjoying their time there. Even though their classes ended up being on the opposite side of campus, "At least we're able to get our steps in," Hannah says. "I especially enjoy the walk when we have nice weather!"

The two enjoy decorating the apartment to more resemble a true home, and to keep things festive, they leave their Christmas decor up for months!



"It's strange once you realize you're now living in your home away from home. I'm not from here, so making our apartment as welcoming and comfortable as possible was definitely in mind when we decorated"

--Hannah Scrattish





"I was excited to come to Courtyard after living in the dorms last year. Now we actually get a private area to sit outside and enjoy the pretty sunsets. We also get to have our own space, which is amazing."

--Lindsay Branch



1) Back Row, Left to Right:

Marques Jackson, Roy Pierce, Landon Boeshore, Jalen Farmer. **Front Row:** Elena Hernandez, Cristina Melchor,

Harmony Davidson, Mykayla Brady

2) Tennis club president Jalen Farmer collects balls during practice.

3+4) A great shot from senior Marques Jackson against the UNCW team has him excited for a victory.

5) Sophomore Andrew Cart hustles to return the ball during afternoon practice on home court.

6) Anthony Vazquez fights for the ball against Campbell University.



The Ball's in Our Court



7) Jarrett Evans goes for a layup as part of a UNCP coaches team.
8) Women's basketball assistant coach Donald Bohannon enjoys campus recreation, including basketball intramurals.

9) Bryce Witt is a football grad assistant on the coaches team.
10) Daniel McLaurin outruns players from UNC-Greensboro's club soccer team.

11) Josue Villa takes command in a club team match against Campbell University.



PEMBROKE DAY

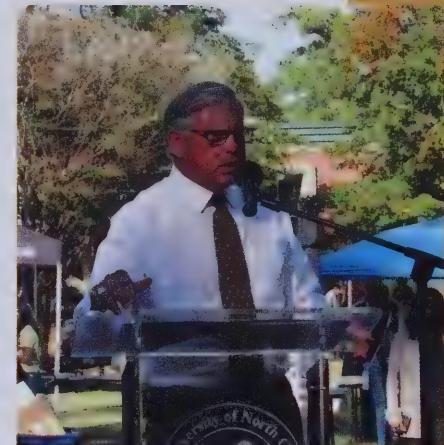
Pembroke Day is a staple not only in our university's culture, but also for the town and surrounding community. Pembroke Day was started in 1990 and is still an integral part of our university traditions. Although the 32nd Pembroke Day was originally scheduled for Sept. 29, the weather had other plans, so it got moved to Oct. 6.

Pembroke Day allows a bridge to be formed between the university, its staff and students, and the community surrounding the campus. Vendors from local businesses, health care organizations, various university offices and programs, student organizations, and more all set up in the Quad to offer information and free goodies to students and visitors. Pembroke Day is a signature outreach event for both "town" and "gown." This year entertainment was provided by Rob Cole, the Robeson Rockers, and UNCP student Alexis Jones.



Above: (Left to Right) Rebekah Revels Lowry, Kim Hunt, and Vanessa Scott represent Alumni Affairs.

Right: (Left to right) Tara Maldonado, Isabella Locklear, Angelina Henhawk, and Noelani Lynch tabling for Alpha Pi Omega Sorority.



UNCP Chancellor Dr. Robin Gary Cummings welcomes the crowd to Pembroke Day.



Rob Cole is a musician based in Pembroke who performs a mix of his original country and worship music.





Lumbee Ambassadors 2022

(Left to Right)

- Keely Noelle Deal,
Junior Miss Lumbee
- Anna Grace Hunt
Teen Miss Lumbee
- Mahlea Celeste Hunt
Miss Lumbee
- Jakayleigh Miracle Lambert
Little Miss Lumbee

Right: (Left to Right) Justin Ryan, Emily Mullan, Dina Abumohsen, Jazmine Locklear and Brandon Kent of the Health Careers Access Program.



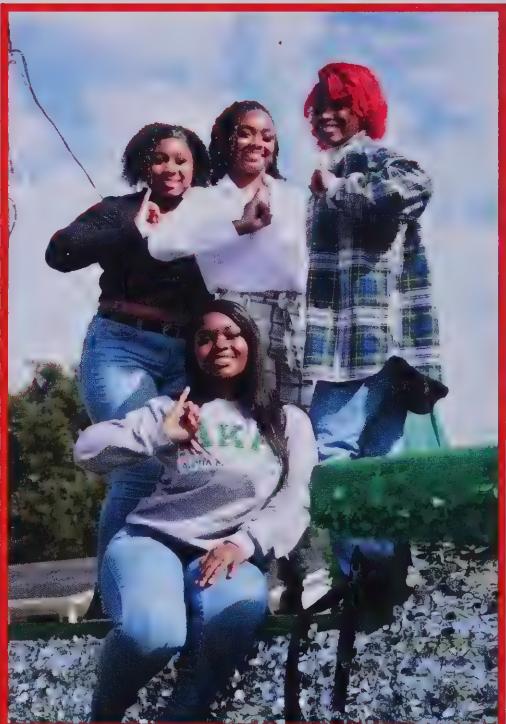
Right: The School of Education is well represented at the UNCP Teach tent.



Above: Lawrence Locklear and Adonis Johnson (behind table) and Lisa Bullard (center) spin the trivia wheel for the Office of Student Inclusion and Diversity.

Right: (Left to Right) Joe Tuff, Glenn Sutton, Reggie Spratling and Tyree Hilliard (front) show their pride in fraternity Omega Psi Phi.





(Top to Bottom) 1887 Society, Campus Engagement and Leadership (CEL), and the Residence Hall Association (RHA) wave to the crowds as they ride on their floats in the Homecoming parade on Oct. 27.

Greek organizations such as Alpha Kappa Alpha (**above**) show school spirit and organizational pride by having a float in the Homecoming parade. **Clockwise from top left:** Michaela Tisdale, Kori Hosley, India Jones and Student Government Association President Taliyah Daniels.



(Left) The color guard leads the UNCP marching band down Faculty Row at the head of the Homecoming parade on a Thursday afternoon.

Garrett Carbenia enjoys tailgating with Alpha Sigma Phi at the football game.



Current and former students braved the dreary weather to party before the Homecoming football game on Oct. 29. Kickoff was at 2 p.m. but the socializing and eating was underway well before that. Tailgating must wrap up at game time.



Homecoming observances began on Oct. 24, and all were encouraged to join in on activities such as RHA Spirit Fest, Homecoming Parade, bonfire, Moonlight Madness, tailgating, and of course the football game. The parade this year included a golf cart decorating competition in addition to the usual float competition. The parade had a record number of participant organizations, 60 in all.

One strange thing about homecoming this year is there were no more “royalty.” Instead of king, queen and court elected by the student body, the 1887 Society was founded by Campus Engagement and Leadership to recognize seven values that students should exhibit in honor of the university’s seven founders. A rigorous application process included ideas for a service project to undertake in the spring.

Homecoming was closed out on Oct. 29 by a rainy football victory over West Liberty University, 24-3.

**HOME OF
THE
BRAVES!**

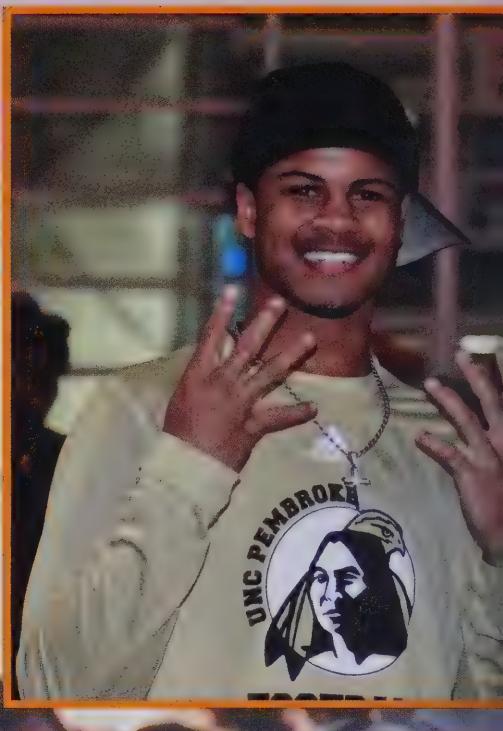
Below, left to right: Tynazia Towns and Nikicia Lindsay are inducted into the 1887 Society.



Right: Simeal Burke and Virgil Lemons are football players getting psyched for the Homecoming game.

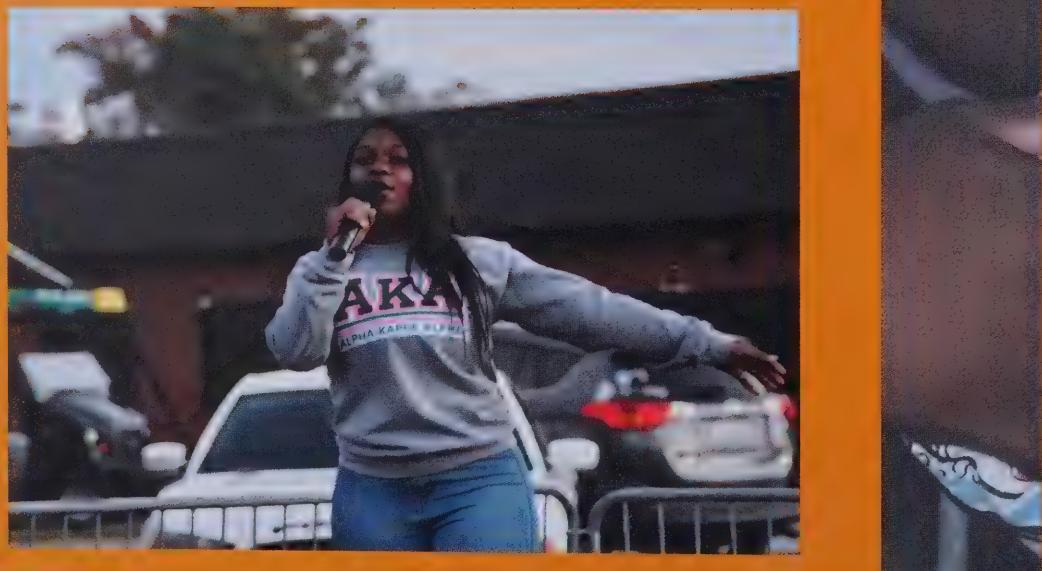


Below: The woodwinds and low brass prove to be essential parts of the Spirit of the Carolinas marching band.



Above: Skyla Miller and Jordan Redmon from the Spirit Squad getting ready for the bonfire event following the Homecoming parade on Oct. 27.

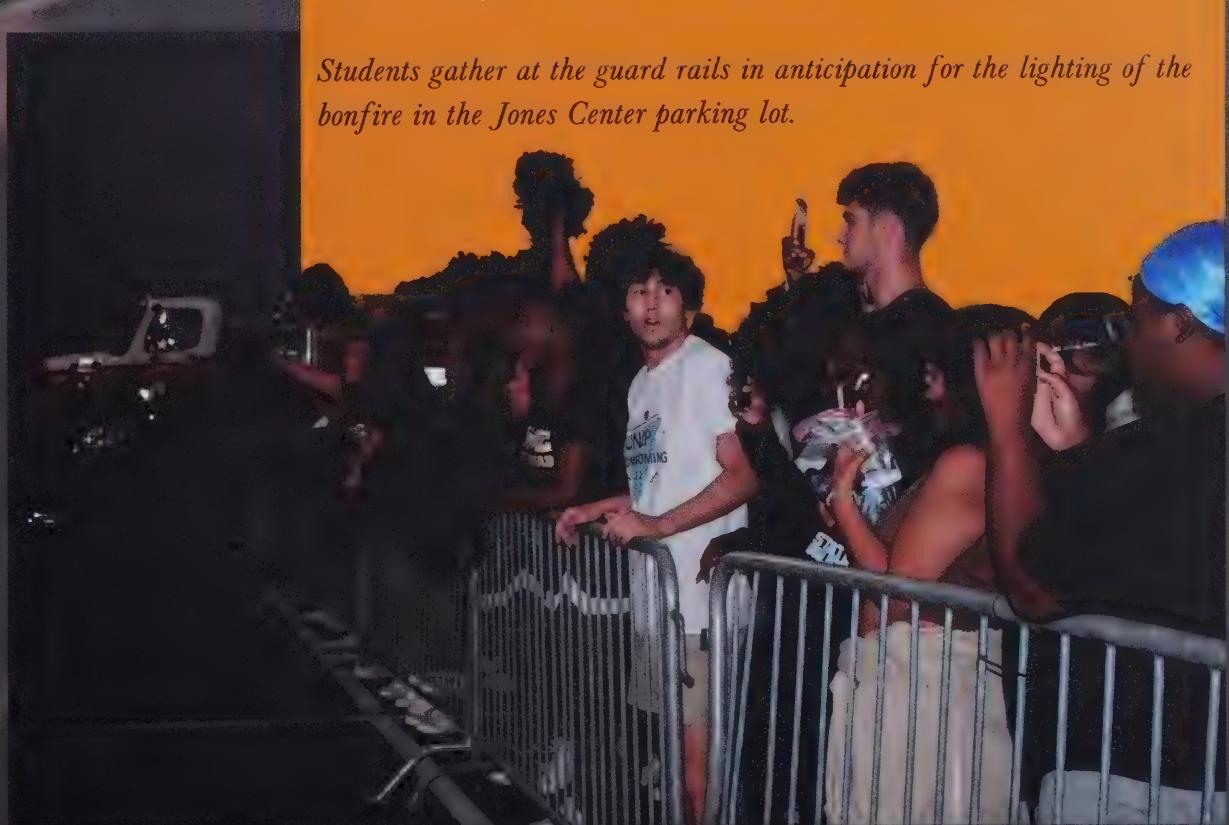
Below: Student Government Association President Taliyah Daniels opens up for the bonfire event.



LIGHTING IT UP!

Strange to have a bonfire in a parking lot? We don't think so. It's safer than on the grass! The Homecoming parade terminated near the football stadium, but the partying continued with a pep rally in Lot 14 behind the Jones Center. Some students played cornhole, picked up a free Homecoming t-shirt, and listened to speeches before the Pembroke Rural Fire Department helped light up a stack of pallets. Friends, fellowship and fire, what better way to enjoy homecoming? Meanwhile, the men's and women's basketball teams were getting ready to entertain fans at their sneak peek known as "Moonlight Madness" inside the gym.

Students gather at the guard rails in anticipation for the lighting of the bonfire in the Jones Center parking lot.





PETS OF

1) Devyn Brandt and her cat Venus have a girls night in, playing cards. 2) No, it's not a strange new hairdo, it's Alvin the guinea pig looking for a place to hide.



1



2



3) Alvin takes a break from nibbling to pose for the camera. 4) Hadiyah McAllister and Alvin have a quick nighttime cuddle. 5) The turtles Debo and Felicia are relentless in trying to escape the grasp of owner Lathan Adams.



4



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UNCP



6) Sunstreaker the goldfish belongs to Taylor Iler and seems to enjoy the peace and quiet of his tank. **7)** Emme Jolicoeur likes to bring Kota Bean to campus. **8)** Alissa Jones has had her two-year-old cat Goose since she was a kitten.



9) Layla is a four-year-old rescue who lives with Julian Tate-Blanks in an apartment off-campus. **10)** Naveah Hunt takes her dogs Bonnie (on leash) and Olive for a walk on Lumbee Field. **11)** Braylon Fowler and his blue nose pit bull, Draco, sit outside Cypress for some fresh air.

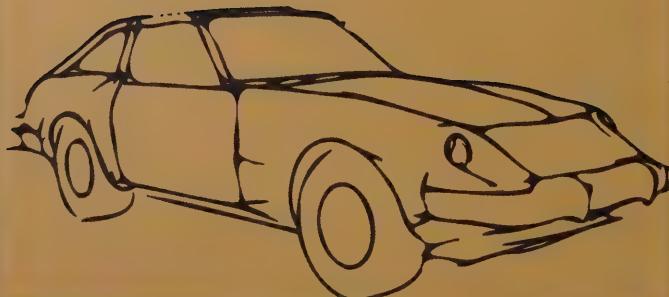


Strange Rides

Sure, they're not as strange as the AMC Gremlin, Pontiac Azteka, or a DeLorean, but there *are* some unusual vehicles spotted on campus on a regular basis. Electric vehicles are becoming more common, and UNCP was awarded a \$38,000 grant in the fall to install four new Level 2 charging ports in the coming year, to complement the six ports already here. Four of the existing charging stations have only one port, so only one car can charge at a time.

Right: Among the many innovative vehicles used by Campus Police is the Gem e4, which allows for a clean, quiet ride through campus. Gem e4s are 100% electric-powered with zero emissions.

Below Right: The Biology Department's pickup truck was originally used for their biofuels project, to pick up used cooking oil for recycling and to move the reactor from one location to another.





"This is wondrous strange."

That's a line spoken by every theater lover's favorite existentialist, Hamlet. There was no work by Shakespeare produced this year, but there was still plenty of drama.

A projector, white props and white costumes were all that was needed to set the scene for UNCP's production of "The Brothers Size," directed by Dr. Jonathan Drahos for University Theatre. The show ran Sept. 22 - 24 and was choreographed by Carolanne Marano.

The play was written by Tarell Alvin McCraney, who later won an Oscar for writing the film "Moonlight." It's set in the Louisiana Bayou, focusing on two brothers, Ogun and Oshoosi Size. The two brothers were separated when the younger Oshoosi went to prison. When Oshoosi is released, the two brothers are reunited, and the play is a display of the bond between two brothers, threatened by the entrance of prison inmate Elegba.

Senior theater major Jamonte Madison performed the role of Oshoosi, and senior psychology major Raekwon Wilkes performed as older brother Ogun. Senior theater major Louis Friedli was Elegba, and freshman Seonte McKeithan performed as the Music Spirit. The actors were met with standing ovations each night.

The characters' names are inspired by Yoruba deities, and there are other Yoruba influences. The production combines poetry, music and dance. "The Brothers Size" is part of a three-part series known as The Brother/Sister Plays that are sometimes performed in a single weekend.



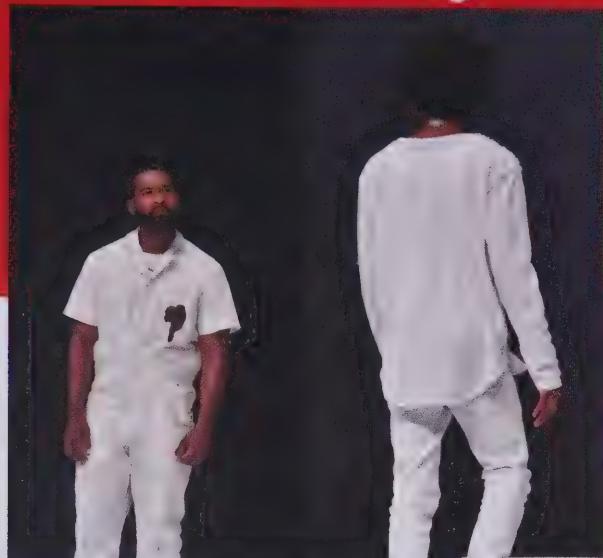
Elegba and Oshooshi consider freedom with the gift of a car.



Jamonte Madison as Oshooshi is cleaning his shoe.

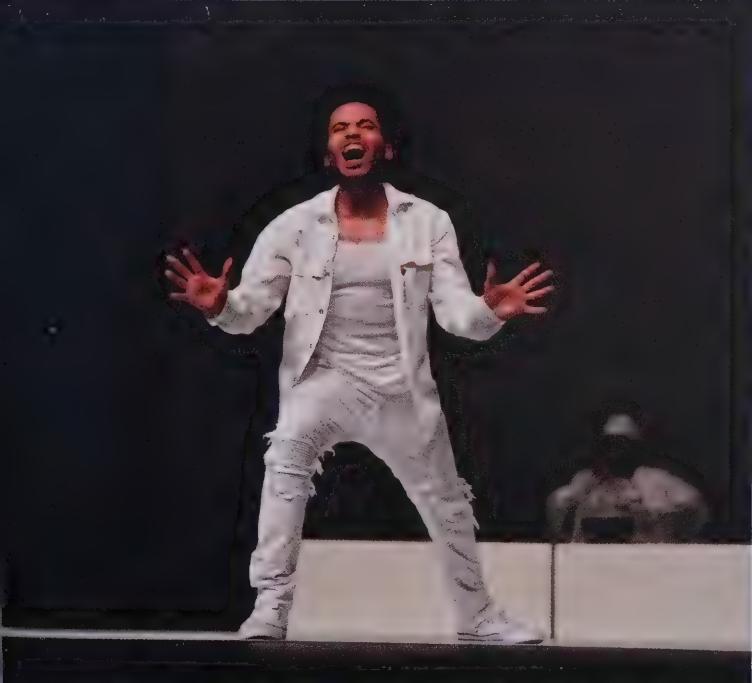
University Theatre

Jamonte Madison (*foreground below*) with Raekwon Wilkes



Left: Dramatic confrontations are part of the story.

Below: Seonte McKeithan as Music Spirit.



'egba (Louis Friedli) might be a bad influence.

Raekwon Wilkes as Ogun (*left*) dances with Jamonte Madison.

Show Time!

The Givens Performing Art Center schedules many acts for the public annually. 1) **Young Hump** from Digital Underground entertains the crowd by jumping up on the speaker during the 2022 Homecoming 90s Throwback Concert. 2) **Smooth Jammy** is in the current line up of C+C Music Factory. She gave a great performance at the 90s concert. 3) **The Dance Alive National Ballet Company** presented the annual Nutcracker Ballet on Nov. 20. 2022. 4) The **Forever Young** musical performance took the audience down memory lane with songs by The Beatles, Michael Jackson, Queen and more on Jan. 20, 2023. 5) **Dublin Irish Dance** presented their new touring show, Wings, shortly before St. Patrick's Day. 6) The Broadway musical **Anastasia** in its final song during their performance on Nov. 6. 7) Anastasia's main character, Anya, sings a solo in Paris.







Above: Stephen Strickland leads a round dance for students and staff during Indigenous Peoples' Day.

Right: Dr. Lawrence Locklear runs a heritage trivia wheel.



Above: Students and employees help each other learn the round dance during the Indigenous Peoples' Day observance that was moved indoors because of the weather forecast.



Above: Visitors learn about native squash with a fun activity during Indigenous Peoples' Day.

Back



To The Roots

Cameron Richardson performs a grass dance in honor of Indigenous Peoples' Day.



While diverse in its student body today, UNCP has a rich native history, having been founded, because of segregation, as a teacher preparation school for North Carolina's American Indian population in 1887. University life continues with formal and informal education about indigenous ways and cultures. The annual "Honoring Native Foodways" event began about 14 years ago as a potluck of traditional foods. Programming for Indigenous Peoples' Day in October (in place of Columbus Day) began in 2019. A federal grant enabled the remodeling and furnishing of spaces in Old Main for an American Indian Heritage Center to provide extra- and co-curricular support. That facility had its grand opening on Nov. 1, 2022. As with the dedication of Thomas Hall in the summer, the event featured a ritual burning of sage, typically used to purify or bless important locations. The university powwow is now held annually in the spring semester. Convocation and graduation ceremonies typically include a flute professional (*see below*) and formal participation by the "Lumbee Ambassadors."



Above: Jayla Locklear, Miss Indian NC 2023, sings at the opening of the American Indian Heritage Center on Nov. 1, 2022.

Left: Reggie Brewer smudges sage in multiple directions for the blessing and commemoration of the opening of James A. Thomas Hall on April 27, 2022.

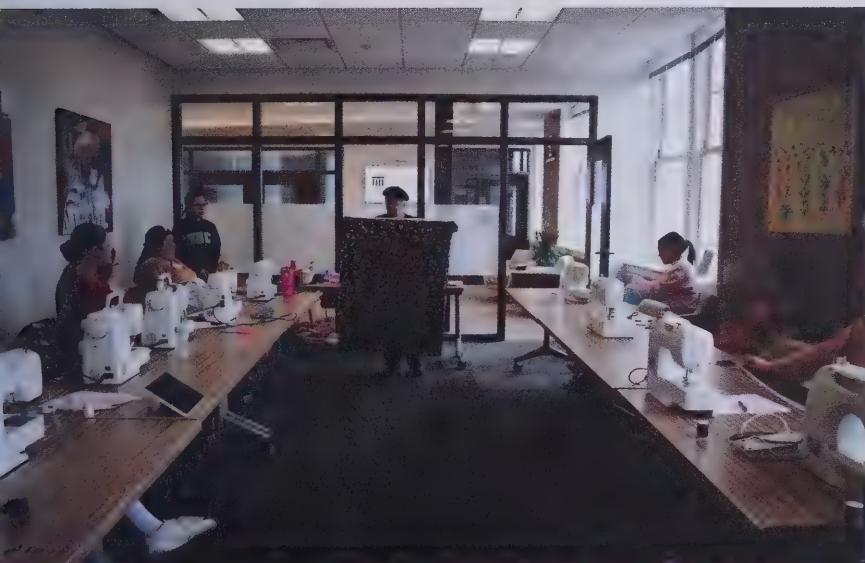
Below: Lyrik Scott (left) and older sister Isis, a social work major at UNCP, model ribbon skirts made by their grandmother that highlight the colors of the Lumbee tribe.



The Art of Ribbon Skirts



Ribbon skirts are traditional wear among North America's indigenous women and girls to express their cultures, personal identities, and what they stand for. The skirts make a connection to a people's matriarchs and to sisters of all kinds. On Feb. 3 in the American Indian Heritage Center, students and staff took a class on making them that was taught by Lumbee elder Dr. Jo Ann Lowery. Participants learned about the history of ribbon skirts and their significance, while following the steps to design and start a skirt of their own. The sewing machines were provided!



Above and Left: Dr. Jo Ann Lowery shows off differently patterned fabrics that could serve as the foundation of a ribbon skirt. The workshop was limited to eight students and was a large time commitment, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., in the Curt and Catherine Locklear American Indian Heritage Center on the second floor of Old Main.



Far Left: Lucas Deese and Kenyonna Deese (left) learn to lay out and drape their fabric to determine the right size for a skirt before cutting it.

Celine Winfield
graduates with the
B.S. in K-6
education with a
concentration in
reading as Dr.
Beverly Justice of
the Department of
Kinesiology keeps
the line moving
across the stage in
the Jones Center.

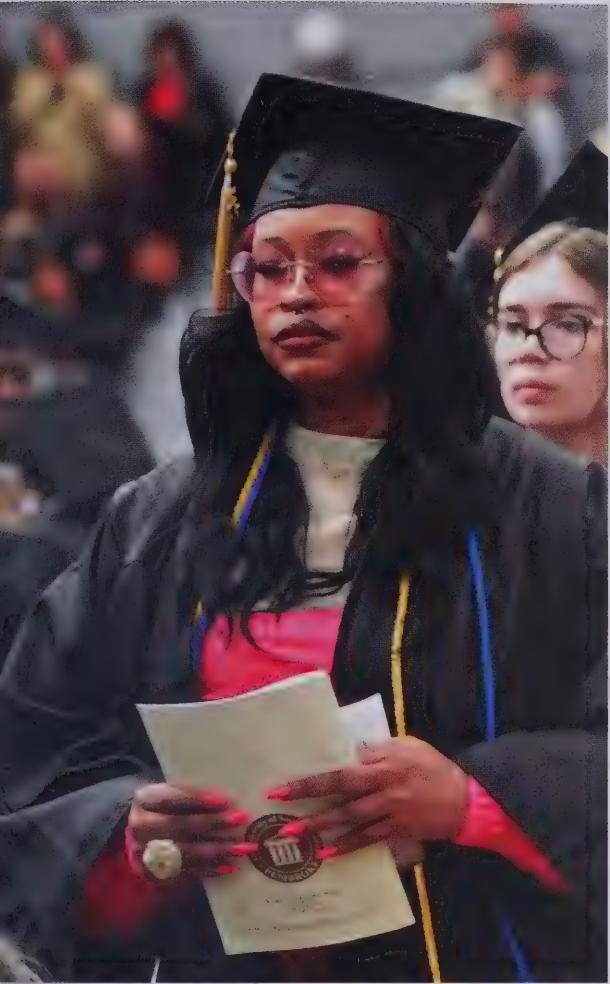


So Long, Struggles...

University officials proudly awarded 1,181 graduate and undergraduate degrees at the Winter 2022 Commencement ceremonies. The Graduate School saw its largest-ever graduating class on Friday, Dec. 9, in the Givens Performing Arts Center, where 434 degrees were celebrated. At the undergraduate ceremony on Saturday, 19-year-old Sara Jorgensen became the youngest to ever cross the stage for a UNCP diploma, and one of the youngest in the institution's history. She graduated summa cum laude with a degree in computer science.

CEO Cecilia Holden was the keynote speaker for both ceremonies. She leads MyFutureNC, created in 2017 to increase the numbers of North Carolinians with college degrees. Holden encouraged graduates to take this gift of education and pay it forward. She reminded graduates that their college degree has not only changed their own futures, but has improved the future for generations to come.





Above: Gemmaury Edison graduates with a B.A. in sociology and a minor in broadcasting.

Right: Ashley Locklear and Ethan Locklear wear their American Indian heritage stoles as they make their way to the stage in the gym.

Below Left: M'Kayla Stokes has earned the B.S. in exercise and sports science.

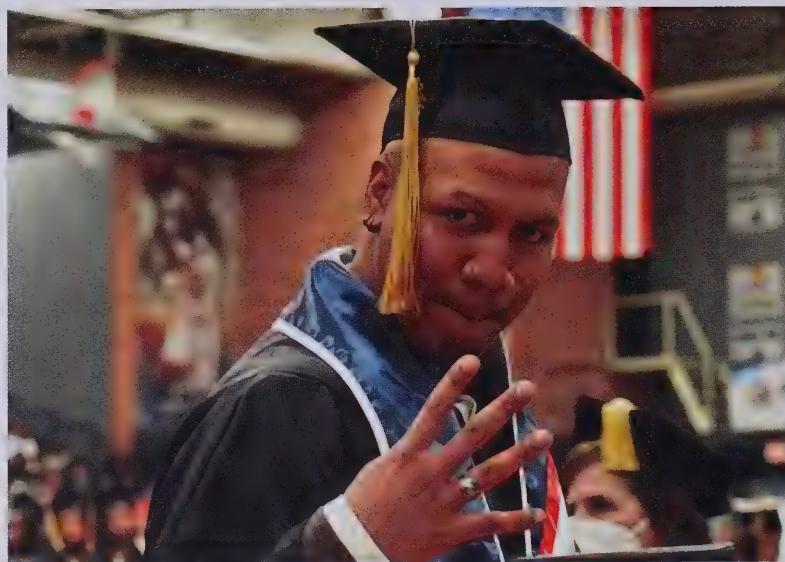


Left: Alyssa Godfrey-Richardson wears the stole of the international music fraternity Sigma Alpha Iota. The organization strives to promote the art of music on campus, in the community and in the world.



Left: Jordan Majette gives a bright smile and lines up in front of Travis Martinez with other graduates of the School of Business at the ceremony in the gym on Dec. 10. Majette served on the dean's student advisory board and now works in Admissions.

Right: Jaylen Bell is excited about earning the B.A. in Art with a major in studio art.



Collin Johnson is a resident advisor who knows his B.S. in Business Administration is a job well done.



Camile Alston is the proud holder of the B.S. in Elementary Education and a member of the Spirit Squad.

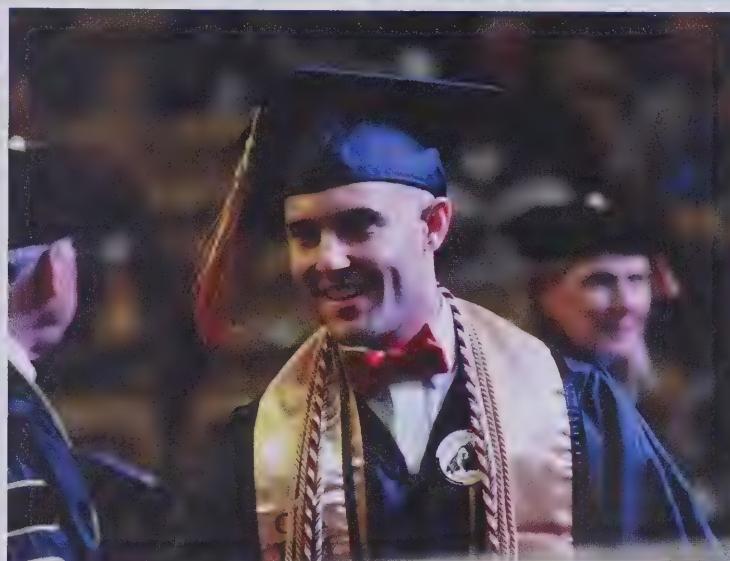


Left: Pia-alyese Reed graduates with the Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies.

Right: Some of the graduates decorate their caps to express their individuality, ethnic pride, their major or to show gratitude for their family's support--or just to stand out in the crowd!



Hello, Future!



Above: Nicholas McNeill graduates magna cum laude from the School of Business and now enters graduate school at UNCP in the same field.

Left: SGA President Taliyah Daniels addresses her peers with words of praise and encouragement.



Savannah Watkins is a track and field athlete who departs UNCP with her B.S. in Environmental Science.

The Graduate School ceremony differs from the commencement held for the undergraduate students in at least one basic difference: the “hooding” of the degree recipients by a faculty member—in our case, the dean of the Graduate School, Dr. Irene Aiken. The hood drapes over the shoulders, and the colors will signify the university and the field of study. The Graduate School has a smaller student body, so the event fits in the Givens Performing Arts Center and is held the night before the big undergraduate ceremony.

Other traditions for graduation include the “pinning” of the degree recipients in the School of Nursing and the School of Education (*bottom*). At UNCP, there is a luncheon for veterans and active military (*below left*), a “lavender” cord ceremony for LGBTQ students, a breakfast for student-athletes, Hispanic heritage cord ceremony (*below and right*), and stoles are available for American Indian heritage.



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HYBRID



THE
GRADUATE
SCHOOL

GRADUATE PROGRAMS

Business Administration

Counseling

Education

Nursing

Public Administration

School Administration

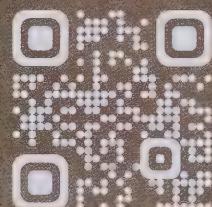
Social Work

Sport Administration

Occupational Therapy starting Fall 2024

ADDITIONAL
PROGRAMS
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MAKE AN IMPACT ON THE LIVES OF UNCP STUDENT-ATHLETES

JOIN THE BRAVES CLUB

Contact athletics@uncp.edu for more information

STUDENT BODY

Sir Reginald Worthington, III

aka “Reggie”

This skeletal Braves fan, the late Sir Reginald Worthington, III, aka Reggie, is a celebrity in his own right and has a devoted fan base. Reggie has his own social media accounts, and his reels are wild. He loves being part of BraveNation and coming out to support our teams in his ill-fitting UNCP apparel. He's also prone to giving fitness and nutrition advice, but judging by the looks of him, he's no expert in that department! Some say the mastermind behind Reggie's persona and salty memes is sophomore Lucas Nervo of the men's cross country and track teams, but we'll never tell!

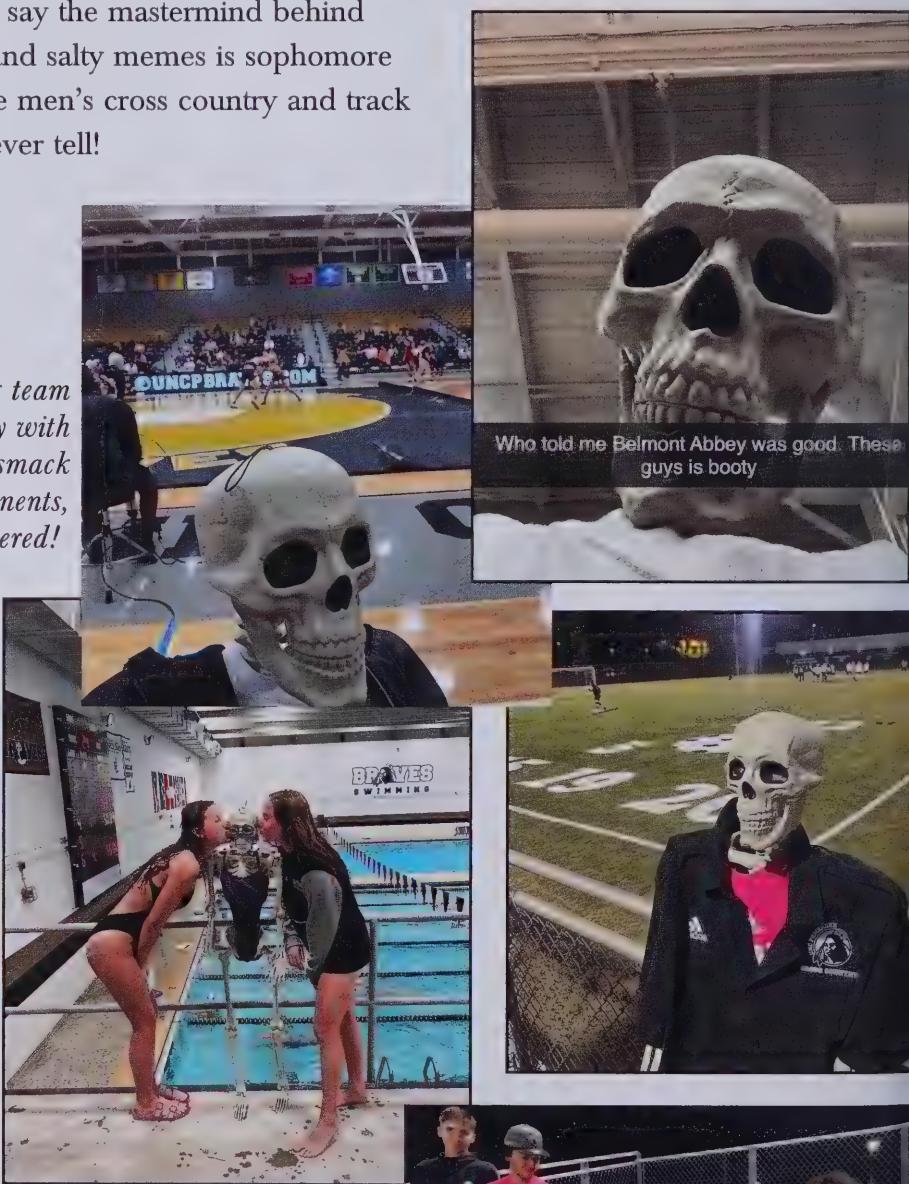
Whether sporting team gear, getting rowdy with the fans, or talking smack about his opponents, Reggie's got it covered!

Follow his Instagram!
@sir_reginald_the_iii



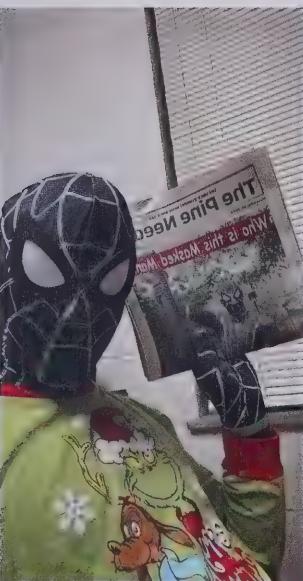
Reginald is always down to support the Braves. Volleyball, swimming, soccer--you name it. As you can tell, he's been a fan for a very long time.

Reggie keeps it cool while cheering with his best buds, the men's cross country team. Legend says that Reggie traveled land 'n sea just to get here. Or maybe he was "shipped" here as a gag gift from Lucas Nervo's mother. None can say for sure.



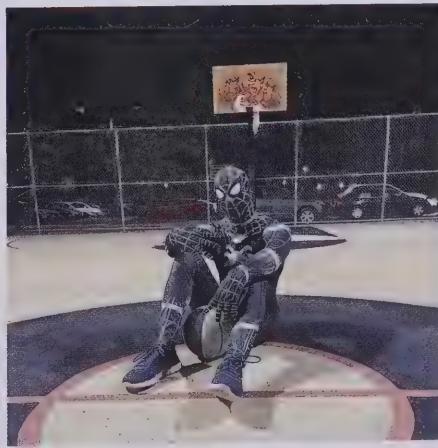
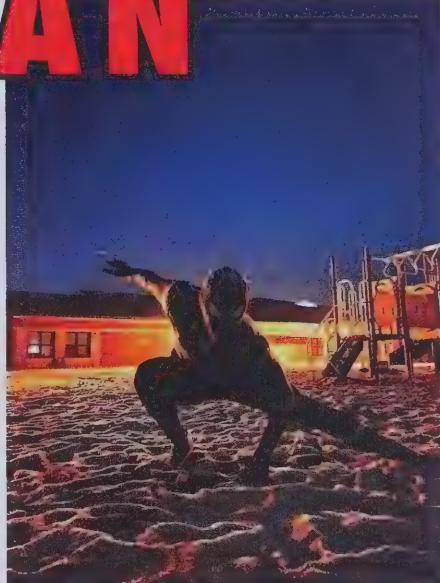
Pembroke Neighborhood

SPIDERMAN



UNCP has its very own Spiderman, and he might not exactly be saving lives, but he is making headlines and inspiring fans of all ages in Pembroke with his cool acrobatic moves and friendly personality.

Spiderman's been seen doing amazing feats such as back flips off the playground equipment, skydiving and shooting hoops. However, Spiderman knows that like Uncle Ben says, "With great power, comes great responsibility." So he also spends a good portion of his time supporting UNCP athletics, attending classes and just hanging out with the locals in his own amazing Spiderman sort of way. Of course, because of FERPA, we can't disclose this super student's identity.



Spiderman has such a way with both kids and birds. He's also available for a pickup game. On Instagram you can follow along on his UNCP journey @uncpspiderman!

WINNING WAYS

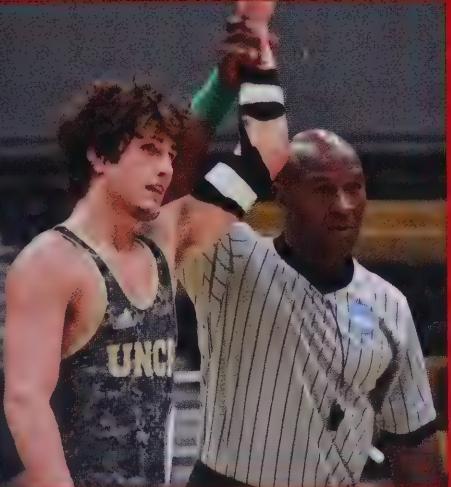
Left to Right: Braves catcher Garrett Littlejohn, pitcher Madison Dyson, wrestler Jake Piccirilli, forward Malea Garrison, and Nathalia Silva, who swims in multiple freestyle events for the Braves



Baseball, p. 50

Softball, p.





Wrestling, p. 72



Women's Basketball, p. 76



Swimming, p. 70

SPORTS

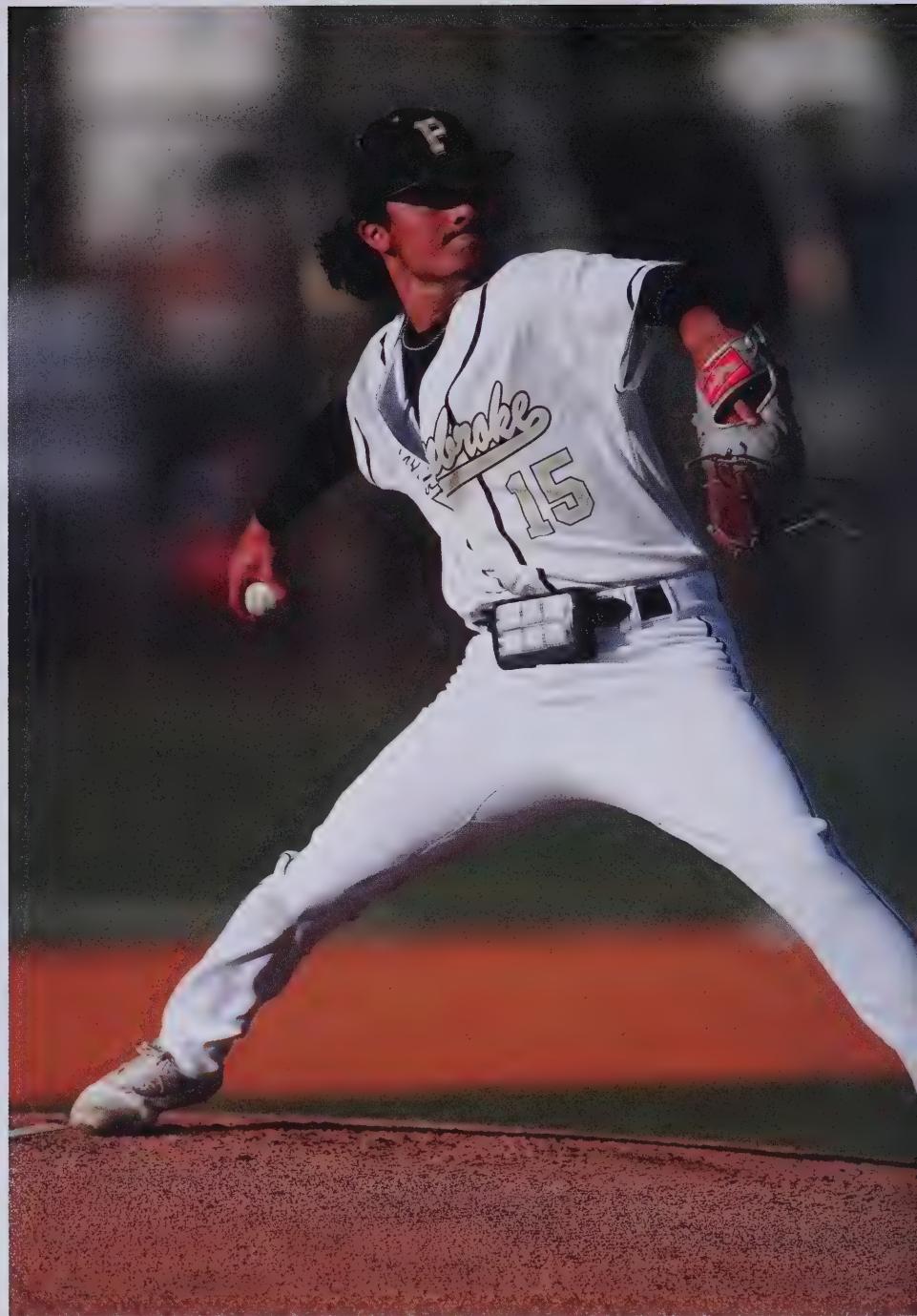


Several UNCP teams and their individual athletes made exciting runs toward their conference championships, but the times were also made strange by the departure of some head coaches and an influx of transfers in some sports. Braves Football completed only their second real season in the Mountain East Conference since COVID-19, but the weather put a damper on wins at home, and then Conference Carolinas announced they would sponsor football in 2025. Rings were handed out in some UNCP programs, and for some teams, Braves Athletics has turned out to be a "family affair," with siblings, parents, alumni or some combination of those all making contributions on the field, the course, the court, or in the pool.

Left: It's Josh Jones with a quarterback-keeper in the game against Concord University while offensive lineman Jonnie Varga (#75) tries to keep the Lions at bay.

SCOREBOARD

UNCP		OPP
2	USC Aiken	0
3	USC Aiken	5
9	IUP	5
5	IUP	4
7	IUP	13
9	Coker	10
19	Southern Wesleyan	2
8	Southern Wesleyan	1
8	Southern Wesleyan	4
3	Bluefield State	4
16	Erskine	5
9	Erskine	10
15	Erskine	11
10	Queens	8
6	USC Aiken	2
20	Clarion	6
20	Clarion	1
18	Clarion	10
2	Catawba	3
7	King	5
5	King	1
8	King	2
16	Chowan	6
9	Chowan	6
18	Chowan	0
8	Wingate	18
5	Belmont Abbey	12
11	Belmont Abbey	8
17	Belmont Abbey	5
14	Coker	5
1	North Greenville	15
2	North Greenville	10
7	North Greenville	5
11	Queens	10
4	Barton	7
5	Barton	2
23	Barton	5
12	Catawba	1
2	Mount Olive	4
7	Mount Olive	2
4	Mount Olive	5
12	Wingate	7
11	Francis Marion	5
3	Francis Marion	2
4	Francis Marion	2
12	USC Aiken	2
7	Emmanuel	2
7	Emmanuel	2
3	Emmanuel	2
5	Barton	6
11	King	7
14	Barton	5
3	Mount Olive	5
5	Lenoir-Rhyne	12
4	North Greenville	6



Above Left to Right: Chase Jernigan led the team's 13-1 victory over Catawba on April 12, and Garrett Littlejohn scored 1 run against Emmanuel on April 30. Top: Gabe Hernandez saw action in the 12-7 victory against No. 2 Wingate on April 19.



BRAVES BASEBALL



The team finished their rigorous season with 38 wins and only 17 losses. This was the 15th time in the last 17 full seasons in which the Braves achieved the 30-win mark. The Braves concluded their regular season strong with three straight wins at Sammy Cox Field against the Emmanuel University Lions. Although they had a winning streak of 8 at the end of their season, strangely enough the second-seeded Braves were eliminated in the Conference Carolinas Championship tournament after 11 innings against fourth-seeded University of Mount Olive on May 8, 2022. The team qualified for the NCAA Southeast Regional, where they went head-to-head with Lenoir-Rhyne and North Greenville. Unfortunately, the Braves' time in the post-season was cut short after losing to both teams.

Infielder Ethan Ott was named the conference's Freshman of the Year. Later in the summer, pitcher Darren Bowen was drafted in Major League Baseball's first round by the Seattle Mariners. Shortstop Wellington Guzman signed a contract to play in a professional league in Michigan.

Front Row, Left to Right: Matt Chisum, Vincent Mallon, Gabe Hernandez, Isaac Garner, Jake Inman, Mac Barton, Spencer Faulkner, Blake Hinson, Zach Long, Will Harris, James Johnson

Middle Row: Branden Kunz, Ramsey Petty, Trystan Kimmel, Andrew Mills, Matt Kelley, Trent Harris, Isaiah Thomas, Garrett Littleton, Landen Smith, Jake Bradley, Chase Jernigan, Ethan Ott, Connor Cox

Back Row: Athletic Trainer Mike Musselwhite, Assistant Coach Cliff Allred, Gage Hammonds, Moses Brown, Tyler Bowes, Jonathan Barham, Darren Bowen, Evan McLean, Tyler Strickland, Wellington Guzman, Christian Jane, Jonathan Jacobs, Rhett James, Bobby Dixon, Assistant Coach Alex Britt, Assistant Coach Jeff Jefferson, Head Coach Paul O'Neil.

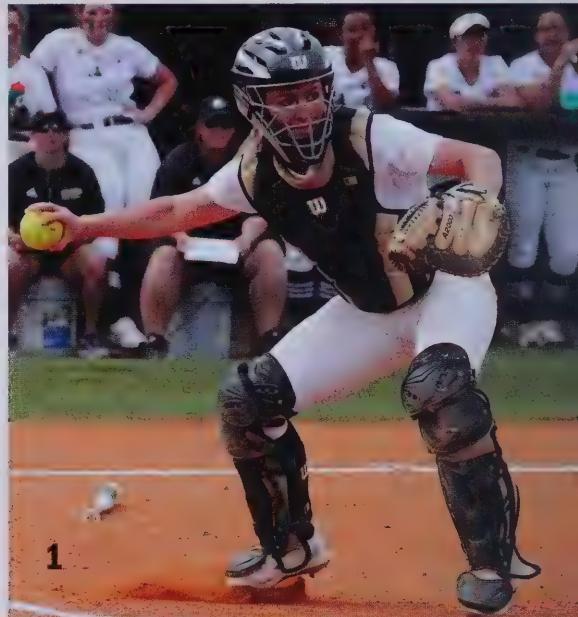


SOFTBALL

It was a strange beginning to the season when the UNCP Invitational got moved from Feb. 4 to Feb. 6 and then got cut short a day because of the rain. They played Kutztown and West Virginia State in a round robin format, defeating the former and losing to the latter in eight innings. The Braves would go on to defeat Fayetteville State in a doubleheader at home just days later.

Head Coach Brittany Bennett earned her 200th victory during a doubleheader at home against Wingate University in March. The Braves had played the Bulldogs on their own home diamond four days earlier with mixed results.

The team wrapped up their regular season April 23 when they traveled to Spartanburg, S.C., for a doubleheader against Converse University. The Braves had hot bats and stellar pitching, taking Game 1 against the Valkyries 8-0. They didn't stop there, finishing off Game 2 with the winning score of 16-7. The team plowed through Erskine and Mount Olive to reach the quarterfinals of the Conference Carolinas Championship, but were eliminated by losses to Emmanuel and Belmont Abbey on April 29, 2022. The season ended with a record of 27-17 overall, the most victories the Braves had earned since 2016. It was therefore strange that Coach Bennett announced her departure May 12 after nine seasons to accept a position at Coker University.



Front Row, Left to Right: Kinsley Sheppard, Syniah Lancaster, Mary Sells, Marijo Wilkes, Lauren Hilbourn
Middle Row: Samantha Allred, Mackenzie Collins, Jordan Adcox, Tatum Brummitt, MaKenna Sibbett, Kaci Roberson, Madison Carriker, Ryann Breault, Sydney Williams
Back Row: Assistant Coach Stephanie Graziani, Head Coach Brittany Bennett, Emily Rose, Conner Brisson, Madison Dyson, Olivia Hall, Emily Biddle, Assistant Coach Tanner Bullard, Athletic Trainer Gabby Hofmeister

SCOREBOARD

UNCP

OPP

9	Kutztown	7
9	West Virginia State	10
c	Kutztown	c
c	West Virginia State	c
13	Fayetteville State	2
7	Fayetteville State	2
6	USC Aiken	8
3	USC Aiken	2
11	Catawba	3
12	Catawba	4
0	Lenoir-Rhyne	4
2	Lenoir-Rhyne	8
5	Adelphi	0
7	Adelphi	1
4	Wingate	5
11	Wingate	5
5	Wingate	4
3	Wingate	1
p	Queens	p
p	Queens	p
c	Georgia College	c
c	Georgia College	c
2	King	3
2	King	9
10	Lees-McRae	7
6	Lees-McRae	3
2	Emmanuel	10
6	Emmanuel	7
7	Erskine	5
14	Erskine	6
14	Chowan	2
6	Chowan	1
8	Southern Wesleyan	3
3	Southern Wesleyan	4
4	North Greenville	8
7	North Greenville	9
2	Mount Olive	1
5	Mount Olive	14
c	Fayetteville State	c
c	Fayetteville State	c
10	Francis Marion	2
5	Francis Marion	6
4	Barton	2
4	Barton	3
4	Belmont Abbey	1
3	Belmont Abbey	4
8	Converse	0
16	Converse	7
5	Erskine	4
8	Mount Olive	1
3	Emmanuel	6
5	Belmont Abbey	6



1) Catcher Jordan Adcox, 2) Infielder Olivia Hall, 3) Senior utility player Tatum Brummitt, 4) Outfielder Emily Biddle

MEN'S TRACK

The men's track and field team continued to break school records, set personal records and capture event titles throughout their indoor and outdoor seasons. The year began in early December 2021 when Joshua Chepkesir set new records for both the 3000 and 5000-meter run at the Winston-Salem College Kick-Off Classic. At this event Tayvon Callahan finished fourth in the 60-meter hurdles and Chris Spellman had his own personal best in the 600-meter dash.

In April at the Conference Carolinas Outdoor Track & Field Championships, both Joshua Chepkesir and Orlandus Gamble were able to log event titles on the opening day! The team finished the tourney in second place. Joshua Chepkesir went to the NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships in Michigan for the 10,000-meter run. Unfortunately he dropped out of the race before completing it. Three men made the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association poll for All-Region: Cole Thomas, Orlandus Gamble and Joshua Chepkesir.



Team Photo, Left to Right

Front Row: DaMarr Harvey, Jaidin Thomas, Wyatt Kuhnemann, Mark Williams, Jamal Stephens, Kevin Vazquez, Lucas Nervo, Gabe Blackwelder, Jeffery Gunter

Middle Row: Zachary Dobbin, Javion Segar, Travon Morrow, Kendrick Lewis, Chris Spellman, Caleb Baldwin, Cedric Douglas, Jermaine McKenzie, Walker Mabe, Jack Phieffer

Back Row: Assistant Coach Eddie Mahana, Sebastian Bradley, Bennie Oxendine, Brace Osewe, Zion Blue, Matthew Geer, Tayvon Callahan, Delsin Burkhart, Alec Valle, Andrew Whitaker, Norman Junker, Head Coach Peter Ormsby, Assistant Coach Alaina Richardson



AND FIELD

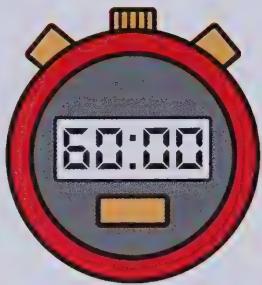


Left: Cole Thomas competes in the Pole Vault event at the Bill Carson Invitational. Far Left: Orlandus Gamble

Below: Jeffery Gunter in the Hurdles event at the conference championship. Facing Page: Justin Walker in Shotput

SCOREBOARD

Winston-Salem College Kick-off Classic	NTS
JDL Flat is Fast Invitational	NTS
VMI Winter Relays	NTS
Liberty Open	NTS
Champion College Team Challenge	NTS
Roanoke Invitational Challenge	NTS
Confrence Carolinas Championship	2nd of 11
NCAA Indoor Track & Field championship	38th of 47
UNCW Invitational	NTS
Alan Connie Shamrock Invitational	NTS
5th Annual Adidas Trojan Challenge	NTS
Raleigh Relays	NTS
Bill Carson Invitational	NTS
Colonial Relays	NTS
Aggie Invitational	NTS
Trojan Relays	NTS
Gamecock Invitational	NTS
UofSC Open	NTS
Confrence Carolinas Championships	2nd of 10
Mount Olive Final Qualifiers	NTS
NCAA Championships	NTS



WOMEN'S

During the indoor season opener on Dec. 4, 2021, Jaela Thomas placed 5th in the 200-meter dash, and Raigan Evans was 7th in the weight throw, which were the top finishes for the team. At the VMI Winter Relays in January, Lillian Marino broke a school record in the weight throw, and Dy'Air McCormick bested her own school record previously set in 2020 in the 200-meter dash, taking second place. McCormick broke her record again a week later at the Liberty Open, with her sixth-place time of 25.33.

The team finished in 3rd place overall at the Conference Carolinas Indoor Championships, Feb. 20-21. Quanterra Harrison took gold in the 60-meter hurdles, and Caroline Flax was 3rd in pole vault.

At the outdoor conference championships April 29-30, the team finished in second place overall with 125 points. Both Quanterra Harrison (400-meter hurdles) and Jaela Thomas (200-meter dash) earned NCAA provisional qualifying marks while simultaneously breaking their own school records. Harrison competed in that event at the NCAA Championships in Michigan on May 26, placing 11th. Marino, Harrison and Thomas were named All-Region in the coaches association poll.



Team Photo, Left to Right

Front Row: Brookelyn Johnson, Sara Ormsby, Charlene Fisher, Dy'Air McCormick, Jaela Thomas, Chloe Phillips, Sam Badami

Middle Row: Aly Artman, Brianna Sanders, Jaqueeta Moise, Reece Hicks, Leisha Jackson, Corey Pethers

Back Row: Head Coach Dr. Peter Ormsby, Assistant Coach Alaina Richardson, Taya McKeithan, Kassie Jesrani, Lillian Marino, Raigan Evans, Quanterra Harrison, Caroline Flax, Micaiah Darity, Assistant Coach Eddie Mahana



TRACK & FIELD



1) Quanterra Harrison captures third place in the 100-meter hurdles at the Bill Carson Invitational. 2) Lillian Marino competes in weight throw at the Indoor Conference Carolinas Championships. 3) Charlene Fisher jumped 5.3 meters in the long jump for a fifth-place finish at the Outdoor Conference Carolinas Championships.



Left: Taya McKeithan competes in the high jump at the Conference Carolinas Outdoor Track & Field Championships in Mount Olive, N.C., April 29-30.



SCOREBOARD

Winston-Salem College Kick-off Classic	NTS
JDL Flat is Fast Invitational	NTS
VMI Winter Relays	NTS
Liberty Open	NTS
Champion College Team Challenge	NTS
Roanoke Invitational Challenge	NTS
Conference Indoor Championship	2nd of 11
NCAA Indoor Championship	38th of 47
UNCW Invitational	NTS
Alan Connie Shamrock Invitational	NTS
5th Annual Adidas Trojan Challenge	NTS
Raleigh Relays	NTS
Bill Carson Invitational	NTS
Colonial Relays	NTS
Aggie Invitational	NTS
Trojan Relays	NTS
Gamecock Invitational	NTS
U of SC Open	NTS
Conference Carolinas Championships	2nd of 10
Mount Olive Final Qualifiers	NTS
NCAA Championships	NTS



SOCCE/R

The Braves started out the Fall 2022 season being picked to be the back-to-back champions of Conference Carolinas in the preseason coaches poll. They met expectations right off the bat on August 25 with their first win of the year—and their first win on the road against the North Georgia Nighthawks since 2009.

UNCP lost only two regular-season games, falling to regional rival Wingate University and conference foe Mount Olive, finishing the season with a 10-1-1 conference record, having tied Francis Marion University on Oct. 11 at home. The Braves then battled Mount Olive again in the Conference Carolinas Championship Semifinals, smoking the Trojans 4-2 in overtime. The North Greenville Crusaders, seeded No. 1, fell to the Braves in the final match two days later. UNCP claimed the Conference Carolinas Championship title for the second year in a row.

Pembroke then headed to the NCAA Tournament but were knocked out in the first round, blanked by Flagler University on Nov. 10, making their final tally 16-3-2, (5-0-2 at home and 9-2 away).

With championship rings on the way, Mercy Bell, Chiara Coppin and Anna Grossheim were named All-Region in the coaches poll, while Anna Grossheim picked up nods for All-American teams from two organizations and made the United Soccer Coaches “Scholar All-America Team” as a sociology major with a 3.98 GPA.



Below: Team captain Anna Grossheim sends a ball upfield minutes before her goal that would end the Lees-McRae game 2-1. Grossheim was named Conference Carolinas Offensive Player of the Year and tournament MVP.



Above: Forward Mercy Bell attacks on the flank to score and end the first half against the King University Tornado 3-0. Bell was a two-time League Offensive Player of the Week, National Player of the Week, Freshman of the Month, an all-League Team winner, and was named to the United Coaches All-Region Squad by the end of her first season at UNCP.

Below: Senior Ashleigh Harris revs up to complete her hat trick against the King University Tornado. Harris, a D2CCA All-Southeast player, has scored 36 goals over her past two years spent at UNCP.



Front Row, Left to Right: Bea Vazquez, Dreena Vanderburg, Roxanne Kirby, Zion Sellers, Anna Bass, Chiara Coppin, Anna Grossheim, Eugenie Amidou, Maddison Oxendine, Naomi Fountain.

Back Row, Left to Right: Head Coach Lars Andersson, Freya Lodge, Nicole Cook, Devyn Hart, Mercy Bell, Morgan Hill, Kennedy Rucker, Ilaya Bigford, Ashleigh Harris, Abigail Lowry, Nona Borden, Assistant Head Coach Brittany Michelle, Athletic Trainer Brendon Johnsson.

Left: Nona Borden, a senior midfielder, goes on the offensive against King to land her first collegiate career goal from 25 yards out. Borden was named to the CSC Academic all-District Team this year making, this the third year in a row that she's been recognized for her academic success.

SCOREBOARD

UNCP	OPP
1	North Georgia
0	Wingate
2	Shaw
6	Converse
8	Erskine
2	Lenoir-Rhyne
8	King
1	Lander
2	Lees-McRae
2	Chowan
3	Emmanuel
0	Mount Olive
1	Belmont Abbey
1	Francis Marion
1	North Greenville
5	Barton
6	Southern Wesleyan
1	Emmanuel
4	Mount Olive
2	North Greenville
1	Flagler
1	

SCOREBOARD

UNCP		OPP
1	Embry-Riddle	3
0	Newberry	3
1	Flager	3
0	Davenport	3
3	Felician	0
3	Lenoir-Rhyne	1
3	Embry-Riddle	2
0	Wingate	3
0	West Florida	3
0	Spring Hill	3
0	Lewis	3
0	Oklahoma Baptist	3
3	Francis Marion	2
1	Emmanuel	3
3	Erskine	0
3	Belmont Abbey	0
3	Chowan	0
3	Mount Olive	2
3	Barton	0
3	Converse	1
3	Chowan	1
3	King	1
3	Lees-McRae	0
3	Francis Marion	2
3	Barton	0
2	Mount Olive	3
2	Augusta	3
3	Southern Wesleyan	0
0	Lenior-Rhyne	3
3	Belmont Abbey	0
3	North Greenville	2
3	Coker	0
3	North Greenville	2
3	Emmanuel	1
1	Augusta	3



VOLLEYBALL

The team started the season on a bumpy road, losing the first four matches. However, they earned their first win on Sept. 2 at Lumbee Guaranty Bank Court during the UNCP Invitational. They went on to beat three of the four teams they played that weekend. The Braves excited fans with a ten-game win streak in the middle of the season. They wrapped up their regular season with a 3-0 victory against Coker University at home.

The Braves earned a bye to the Conference Carolinas tournament semifinal round that UNCP hosted and beat North Greenville and then Emmanuel to clinch their first championship in almost four decades! They also nabbed their first national berth in program history, but were knocked out in the first round by Augusta.

After all that success, it was strange to hear that Coach Carly Nehling resigned, but she had to make the decision for her family.



Back row, Left to Right: Gabby Hofmeister, Coach Carly Wehling, Katie Pressley, Emma Fraidenburg, Katelyn West, Quincy Vanderhorst, Katie Wakefield, Hope Turbyfill, Erin O'Donnell, Precious Daley, Elle Mead, Assistant Coach Jaleesa Harper, Xavier Obregon
Front row, Left to Right: Brianna Warren, Vanja Przulj, Taylor Osborne, Shannon Skryd, Elise Martin, Morgan Gibbs



BRIANNA WARREN

Brianna Warren is a senior student-athlete majoring in Bio-Med. She hopes to work in a forensic lab after graduation. She has been on the volleyball team since her freshman year. Brianna says that she always wanted to play a sport and decided that her height could be a good match with volleyball, because she's 6 feet one inch tall! She didn't start playing until her senior year of high school but was still able to receive offers from universities.

Brianna advises future student-athletes to learn how to manage their time with their sport. As she says, a lot goes into being a student-athlete: "study hall hours, film, practice, lifts, games, traveling, community service and team bonding." During hard times it's always important to have people to talk to and lean on. For Brianna that is her parents. She says that after having a rough start to her athletic career as a college student, her dad helped her build up her confidence and become the player she is today. Her parents continue to support her as they did during her freshman year. Even when she didn't play, her parents were in the stands.

As her time at UNCP comes to an end, Brianna says she enjoyed her time playing volleyball, breaking records with her teammates, and seeing the program turn into a "competitive volleyball team." She had been waiting to win the conference championship since her first year, and on Nov. 13 that dream became reality! Brianna ended the season with her second consecutive All-Region distinction.

FOOTBALL

The football team had a strange season for sure. They renewed the Two Rivers Classic series that Fayetteville State had quit after eight straight losses, only to lose the cup for the first time in their season opener at FSU's Jeralds Stadium. However, the Braves returned to Pembroke and won their next two home games. Still, home games were a strange subject for the team and fans. Three out of five were played through the rain, and the game against Frostburg State was pushed forward to a Thursday because of the Hurricane Ian forecast in late September. It was strange enough that the home game against West Virginia State was already scheduled for the Thursday of Fall Break.

The 2022 Homecoming game was likewise met with rainy weather, but that didn't stop the Braves from delivering a big win, defeating the West Liberty Hilltoppers 24-3. Quarterback Josh Jones said the four-game win streak at home demonstrated how much effort the team was putting into the season.

The final home game of the season included a celebration of American Indian Heritage Month and doubled as Senior Night. It was strange enough the Braves got blanked the week before by Notre Dame College on the road (0-27), but here they were, keeping fans on the edge of their seats, plowing through five overtime periods! Sadly the Braves lost by two points, breaking their win streak at home. UNCP announced the next day they were parting ways with Shane Richardson after nine seasons as head coach (34-44) and seven before that as a defensive coordinator and linebackers coach.

Branden Spencer and Dante Bowlding were named first-team All-Conference, and three players got All-District Academic honors: Josh Jones, Alex Alvarado, and Colin Johnson.

Right: Zechariah Adams-Duckson makes a 5-yard touchdown run in the game against West Virginia Wesleyan on Sept. 10.

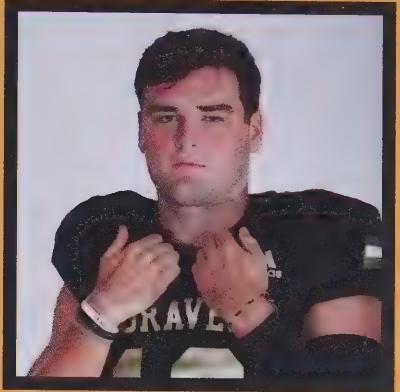
SCOREBOARD

UNCP	OPP	
13	Fayetteville State	15
50	West Virginia Wesleyan	26
17	Glennville State	45
23	Fairmont State	25
10	Frostburg State	9
17	Wheeling	16
45	West Virginia State	24
21	Charleston	70
24	West Liberty	3
0	Notre Dame	27
56	Concord	58



Josh Jones

Josh Jones is a well-known name on campus. Not only is he the Braves starting quarterback, but he's also a grad student in Sport Administration, having graduated UNCP with a B.S. in Exercise and Sports Science. Josh was also a member of the Maynor Honors College and completed his honors thesis and a minor in Business Management in Spring of 2022. After graduation, Josh hopes to play football professionally and to some day coach football at a college or professional level. He wants to be in a position where he can have the ability to positively impact young people the same way his coaches impacted him.



During his time here, Josh volunteered in many ways, such as reading to kids in local public schools via the Brave Buddies program and says he's "super thankful" for the opportunity. He also says he's grateful for those close to him, especially his family. Josh often leans on his family for support both on and off the field. On the field he is motivated by wanting his team to be successful. Josh broke many school records for passing and is responsible for the most TDs in the program's 16-year history. He says that's an "awesome feeling." He thanks his coaches and teammates for helping him get where he is today and helping him accomplish so much: "I am grateful for them throughout my journey."

Josh says one of the strangest things he experienced at UNCP was having no football activities for two weeks because of Hurricane Florence and then having to play a game within five days of returning to campus. He says the COVID-19 pandemic obviously was another unique time.



Left: Quarterback Josh Jones makes a run for it against the Frostburg Bobcats in a game that was moved up for play on a Thursday because of Hurricane Ian.



Left: Virgil Lemons keeps the momentum going in multiple overtime periods against Concord University on Nov. 12.

2022 FOOTBALL

Row 1 (Bottom Row): Christian Coleman, Justin Hall, Faheem Diaab, Coach Shane Richardson, Nick Anderson, Josh Jones, Alex Alvarado

Row 2: Michael Lawson, Jarrett Evans, Jeff Fantuzzi, Corey Minnie, Jason Gerber, Bill Young, Billy Lindquist, Ryan Walker

Row 3: Nicholas Kolsin, Jaylian Petty, Dante Bowlding, Trey Dixon, Jai'Veon Smalls, Hunter Turner, Diaz Alexander, Rodney Smith, Colin Johnson, Isaiah Oxendine, Amya Bethel

Row 4: Rodney Smith, Wesley Calloway, Hunter Norton, Sam Jones, Caleb Locklear, Evan Van'Meter, Jeremy Cain, Angelo Cromwell, Trey Chavis, Braylon Fowler, Ja'Quan Kelley, Jemell Vereen

Row 5: Marcus Davis, Shaheem Shipman, Blake Page, A.J. Miller, LaTrell J ewsome, D'Andre Ferguson, Virgil Lemons, Zaahir Colen, George Brew B.J. Tobe, Simeal Burke, Evan Powell

Row 6: Jaden Richeson, Bryce Beard, Gabe Smith, Alijah Barber, Quentin Cooper, Keith Pittman, Payton Sowers, Nick Minacapelli, Elias Alston, Trent Brown, Austin Chavis, Jaden Gaither



TEAM ROSTER



Row 7: Zechariah Adams-Duckson, Damien Sarrels, McKinley Uzzell, Jateh Storr, Noah Whitekettle, Enrique Lopez-Ray, Landon Johnson, Daniel Williams, Malik McKinzie, Julius Jackson, Matt Lathan, Zylique Lewis

Row 8: Zay Arrington, Jeremiah Rodgers, Ethan Benson, Chris Locklear, Derran McKoy, Nick Melchiorre, Sahiem Binger, Brandon Griffin, Bradley Gooden, Jacob Perry, Jordan Hughes, Nick Anderson

Row 9: Dave Bonnet, Jameson Stalling, Tony Pitt, Kacieon Williams, Jaiwan Sanders, Josh Miller, Marques Roper, C.J. Davis, Jovany Doe, Trandrick Evans, Lakota Locklear, Bo Osborne

Row 10 (Top Row): Colin Abney, Amarion Hunter, Thatcher Tiller, Davion Jackson, Darryll Malachi, Kinston Reaves, Brandon Spencer, Christon Hunt, Isaiah Robinson, Tyreke King



Left to Right: Defensive backs Dante Bowlding, D'Andre Ferguson, Virgil Lemons



Left to Right: Defensive linemen Brandon Spencer, Kinstin Reeves, Justin Hall



Grad Assistant Jason Gerber coaches the defensive line for the Braves.

MEN'S & WOMEN'S

The Braves' Cross Country program had a successful 2022 season, with the men winning their conference championship as a team on Nov. 5 in Spartanburg, S.C., where the women's team placed third.

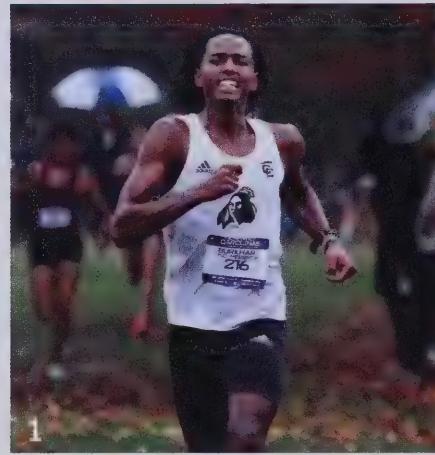
1) Delsin Burkhart gained All-Conference recognition for his fourth place finish with a time of 25:38.5 at the Conference Carolinas championship meet.

2) Joshua Chepkesir, the men's conference Runner of the Year, snagged his fifth-straight individual conference title at the same event. His win marked the first time in the program's history that a runner won five conference titles.

3) Jackline Kosgei, the women's Runner of the Year, picked up her second-consecutive individual conference title, making this only the second time in program history a runner has achieved this.

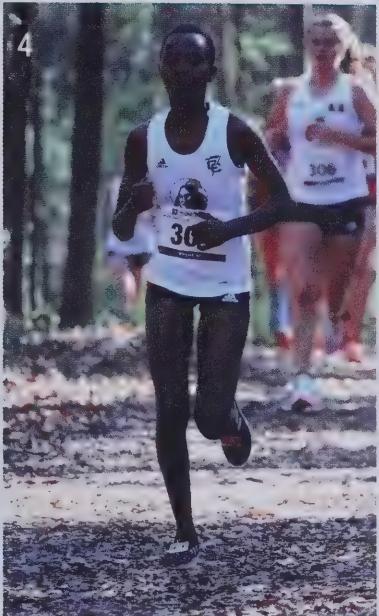
4) Karen Piro logged a new personal record on the 6K course with 24:09.9.

5) Julia Van Dine finished out the scoring for the championships in 28th place.



Left to Right: Jack Phieffer, Norman Junker, Gabe Blackwelder, Elisha Kipsang, Christian Whiteside, Joshua Chepkesir, Kevin Vasquez, Hunter Levy, Lucas Nervo, Bryan Viera, Delsin Burkhart

CROSS COUNTRY



SCOREBOARD

Eye Opener	4th of 14
Queen City Invite	3rd of 15
Akiah McMillian Invitational	1st of 12
UAH Invitational	16th of 48
Conference Carolinas Championship	1st of 13
NCAA Southeast Regional	6th of 20
NCAA Championships	NTS

The women's team took first place, and the men's team was second overall, at the Akiah McMillian Invitational in Columbia, S.C., where Jackline Kosgei took the individual title in the 6K and Jack Pheiffer was runner-up in the 8K.

Joshua Chepkesir won the 10K race at the NCAA Southeast Regional on Nov. 19 and punched his ticket to nationals in Seattle, along with Jackline Kosgei, who placed fifth in the 6K that day. Both from Kenya, they hold school records in various long-distance events.



Left to Right: Assistant Coach Pardon Ndhlovu, Julia Van Dine, Valary Samoei, Jaqueeta Moise, Jazmine Lorenzo, Jackline Kosgei, Chloe Phillips, Karen Piro, Kathryn Anderson, Director of Cross Country Dr. Peter Ormsby



SCOREBOARD

Battle For Royalty
Savannah Lakes Ladies Fall Invitational
Savannah Lakes Ladies Fall Invitational
Saint Leo Invitational
Saint Leo Invitational
World Golf Invitational
World Golf Invitational
Battle at Hilton Head
Battle at Hilton Head
Low Tide Invitational
Conference Carolinas Preview
Conference Carolinas Championship
NCAA South Regional

3rd of 14
16th of 19
12 of 19
7th of 9
6th of 9
10 of 21
11 of 21
6th of 17
7th of 17
7th of 13
1st of 5
1st of 11
12th of 12

1) Georgia Page was named Conference Carolinas Golfer of the Year.

2) Chessa Lee is a Tabor City native who transferred to UNCP for the 2021-22 season.

3) Grad student Samantha DeBusk was named to the All-Conference team at the end of the season in April 2022.

4) Senior Amanda Hamrin carded a five-over-par 76 in the final round of action at the NCAA South Regional on May 4, 2022. Hamrin is from Sweden.

5) Toni Blackwell carded a four-over par 75 in the opening round at the conference championship on April 3, 2022.

GOLF

Samantha DeBusk opened the season with her 8-over-par-79 in the first round at the Queens University Battle For Royalty on Sept. 20, 2021. Like other teams chronicled in this book, strange weather impacted their season from the start, leading the hosts to cancel the second round, giving UNCP a third-place team finish and DeBusk a sixth-place individual finish.

The team traveled throughout South Carolina and Florida. In January they were the favorite to win the conference title in the spring preseason coaches' poll. The team finished 11th out of 21 teams at the World Golf Invitational in St. Augustine on Feb. 8, 2022, and 7th of 17 in Hilton Head on Feb. 22. At the Conference Carolinas previews March 14-15, Georgia Page earned her first individual tournament title of the season, leading the Braves to first place overall out of five teams.

The Braves competed in the Conference Carolinas Championship April 3-4 in Hartwell, Ga., where Toni Blackwell led the team to first place after the opening round. The weather forecast led to the strange scheduling of two rounds on the first day, and as many holes of Round 3 as they could get in by 7:30 p.m.

Finishing up the next morning, the Braves found themselves conference champions, besting ten other teams. Georgia Page took the individual crown, carding 9-over-par 151, the first Braves golfer to take a top conference title in the last nine seasons and only the third in program history to do so. Teammates Georgia Page, Toni Blackwell, Amanda Hamrin, Elizabeth Richie and Samantha DeBusk were named to the All-Tournament Team. The season ended when the team finished last at the NCAA South Regional in Davie, Fla., on May 4, 2022.

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Left to Right: Coach Hannah Luckett, Georgia Page, Amanda Hamrin, Samantha DeBusk, Toni Blackwell, Elizabeth Richie

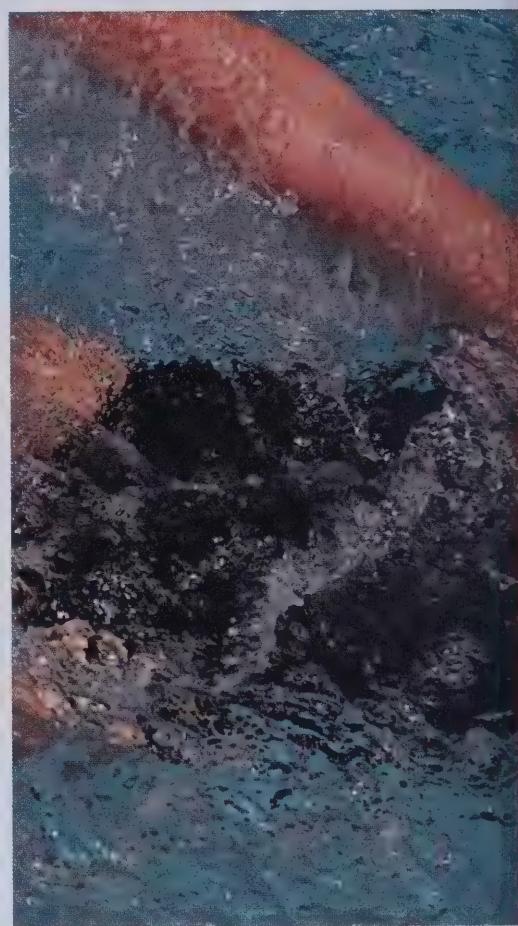


Left: Sophomore Gina Ruffino swims butterfly in a tri-meet against Lenoir-Rhyne and Roanoke in the UNCP Aquatics Center on Jan. 21.



Above: Nathalia Silva won the 200-yard freestyle on Senior Day during a tri-meet against Lenoir-Rhyne and Roanoke.

Right: Sara Ormsby swam both the 100-yard and 200-yard backstroke events in a home meet against Chowan University and Salem University.



UNCP		SCOREBOARD	OPP
102		Campbell	155
c		King Invitational	c
120		Cumberlands	175
162.50		Lees-McRae	118.50
133		Emory	128
191		Barton	61
3rd/11		WPU Pacer Invitational	N/A
3rd/11		WPU Pacer Invitational	N/A
194		Salem	66
211		Chowan	39
158		Emory & Henry	83
101		Catawba	139
184		Lenoir-Rhyne	78
186		Roanoke	74
154		Converse	49
167		King	80
2nd of 8		Conference Carolinas Championships	N/A
NTS		NCAA Championships	NTS



Above: Ketlyn Rodriguez Matos took first place in the 200-yard freestyle and 200-yard individual medley in a tri-meet against Chowan and Salem.

SWIMMING



The 2022-23 season started in September at Campbell University. While the team lost, individuals captured event titles. Nathalia Silva was seen winning both the 1000-yard and 500-yard freestyle events and was runner-up in the 100-yard freestyle! Chiara Ambrosi, a transfer student from Italy, achieved her first win of her college career in the 200-yard individual medley.

The team was scheduled to travel to Tennessee to compete in the King Invitational, but the bad weather from Hurricane Ian led to the meet's cancellation. The Braves were back in action Oct. 15 in a tri-meet at Lees-McRae, where they beat the Bobcats but fell to the Cumberlands Patriots. Nathalia Silva was first in her two distance events again, and Swedish freshman Chloe Imsand nabbed both breaststroke titles. It was strange to learn that Imsand was gone in the spring.

The Braves won 11 events in a meet against the King University Tornado on Feb. 4 when four different swimmers captured individual titles in multiple events and the 200-yard freestyle relay squad finished first with a time of 1:43.97. By the end of the season, the team was 10-3 overall. At the Conference Carolinas Championships Feb. 16-18, the team finished 2nd out of 8 teams. Britta Schwengle, a mid-season addition to the Braves from Aruba, was named Conference Carolinas Freshman of the Year! Head Coach Oscar Roverato picked up the league's Coach of the Year honors. Junior Mariel Mencia Martinez traveled to nationals in Indianapolis and swam the 50-yard freestyle in under 24 seconds for the fifth time this season.

Three swimmers named "Academic All-District" were Nathalia Silva, Anna Miller, and Nina Wiatrowski.



Right: The Braves defeated unbeaten Salem and left Chowan in their wake at a home meet on Dec. 3. (Left to Right) Ketlyn Rodriguez Matos, Nathalia Silva, Rachel Carapella and Sarah Morden



WRESTLING

The Braves started their season Nov. 6 at home on Lumbee Guaranty Bank Court with the 41st Annual Pembroke Classic. Logan Seliga, Jake Piccirilli and Shylik Scriven all wrapped up the day undefeated. Eight schools were represented that day, and 20 Braves registered at least one victory. Seventeen Braves received two or more wins, making the event a glorious start to the season!

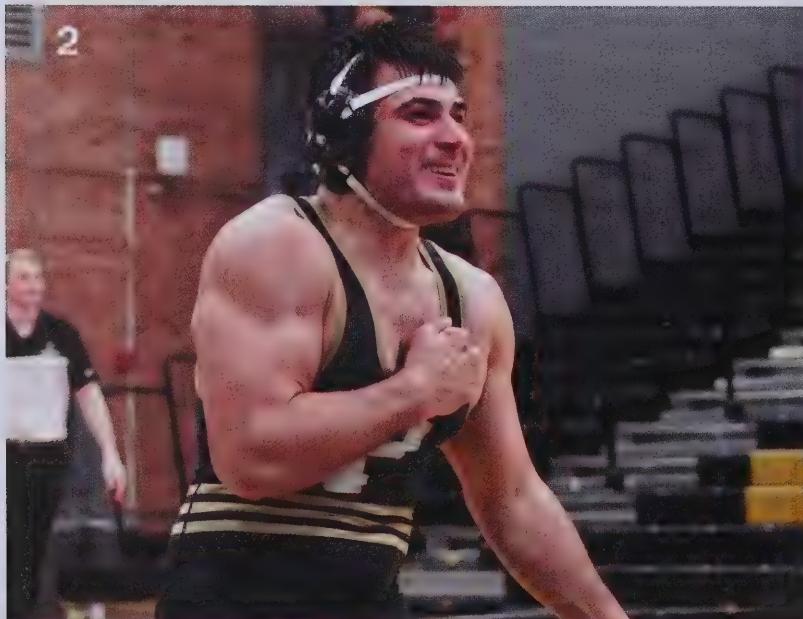
The team dominated at their first conference match-up the next week at Coker University, crushing the Cobras 39-6. The Cobras' only points came in a forfeit at the 141-lb. weight class, where UNCP had no entrant.

In another lopsided victory, the Braves handed the Newberry Wolves their first loss of the season in a meet at home on Nov. 29. Logan Robinson (133 lbs.) won by pin, and Logan Seliga (125), Will Lowery (157) and Shylik Scriven (184) all had major decisions.

An eight-match win streak was stopped by the No. 2 Lander Bearcats, who won the conference title on Feb. 9, when the Braves were missing three starters. The Braves finished the season 10-2 overall and 9-1 in the conference.

In the NCAA Super Region 2 Tournament the Braves finished 4th overall out of ten teams. Robinson took a third-place medal and punched his ticket to the NCAA Championships in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, along with Scriven and Bryce Walker (197). The season ended at the NCAA Championships where Shylik Scriven's 13-9 decision in a preliminary round was the highlight for the Braves action. On the bright side, the team has earned 20 straight points at the NCAA Championships since 2003. Multiple Braves have qualified and attended the event for the last seven years.

Robinson, Walker and Scriven were named "All-Conference." Head Coach Othello Johnson received the 2023 Bob Bubb Coaching Excellence Award from the National Wrestling Coaches Association. As head coach for 12 seasons, Johnson has helped the program achieve 50 national qualifiers, 21 All-American honors, and a trio of individual national championships!

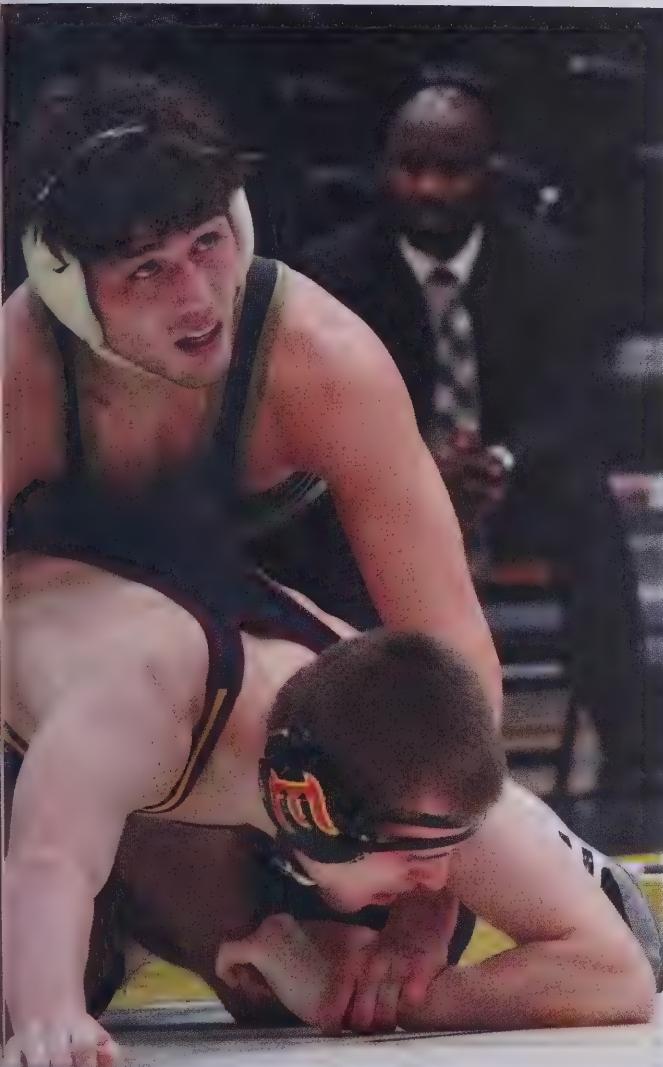


UNCP

SCOREBOARD

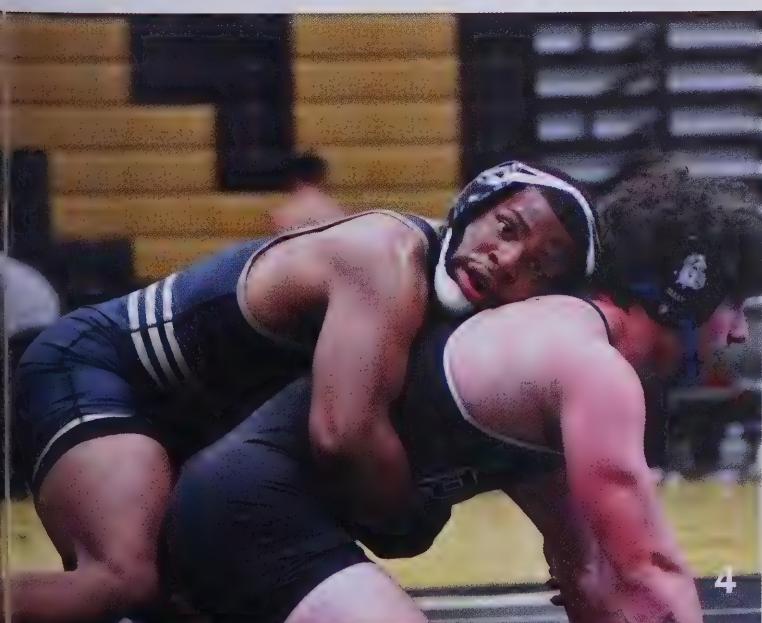
OPP

1. Jake Piccirilli gets ready to make a first period pin in the 149-lb. weight class at a home meet against Emmanuel College.
2. Massimo Sullivan (197) leads the Braves to a final score of 34 to 10 against Emmanuel College.



UNCP	SCOREBOARD	OPP
NTS	41st Annual Pembroke Classic	NTS
39	Coker	6
NTS	The Citadel Open	NTS
NTS	Georgia Open	NTS
39	Limestone	12
NTS	Life U Open	NTS
30	Newberry	9
34	Tiffin	15
14	Baldwin Wallace	33
47	Davis & Elkins	5
49	Bluefield State	3
20th of 43	43rd Annual Midwest Classic	-
21st of 43	43rd Annual Midwest Classic	-
NTS	Citrus Invitational	NTS
34	Belmont Abbey	9
34	Emmanuel	10
53	Lincoln Memorial	0
24	King	15
54	Emory & Henry	3
28	Mount Olive	15
NTS	Newberry Open	NTS
7	Lander	30
4th of 10	NCAA Super Region 2 Tournament	-
41st of 50	NCAA Championships	-

3. Shylik Sciven is one of three Braves receiving All-South Atlantic Conference Carolinas honors for the 2022-23 season.
4. Tkaii Gaither wrestles a Barton Bulldog before pinning an opponent from Mount Olive at the 41st Pembroke Classic.
5. Loyer Burkhead gets a 13-6 decision against Emmanuel in the 157-lb. weight class.



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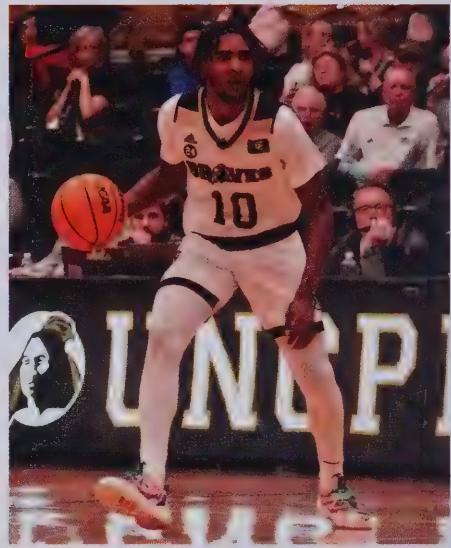
MEN'S

The season started on Nov. 12 with a win against Newberry at home, the beginning to a great season in which the Braves were predicted to capture the regular season title. While on a 12-game winning streak the team broke 100 points for the first time in the season against Mount Olive. This game was also Head Coach Drew Richard's 50th win at UNCP.

Ranked 5th nationally, the Braves gave fans a scare Feb. 8 in a home game against the Barton Bulldogs, who led in the first half. The Braves fought back in the second half to clinch the result, 93-74, breaking a school record for consecutive wins, with 17. The win streak was halted at 18 after an upset in Georgia at Emmanuel College. By the end of the regular season, they had lost only one home game and cut down a net as winners of the Conference Carolinas regular season title on Feb. 22, with a record of 18-2 (26-2 overall). Elijah Cobb was named Defensive Player of the Week.

Coach Richards was named Coach of the Year, and sophomore Bradlee Haskell was named to first-team All-Conference. JaJuan Carr and Cortez Marion-Holmes received third-team honors.

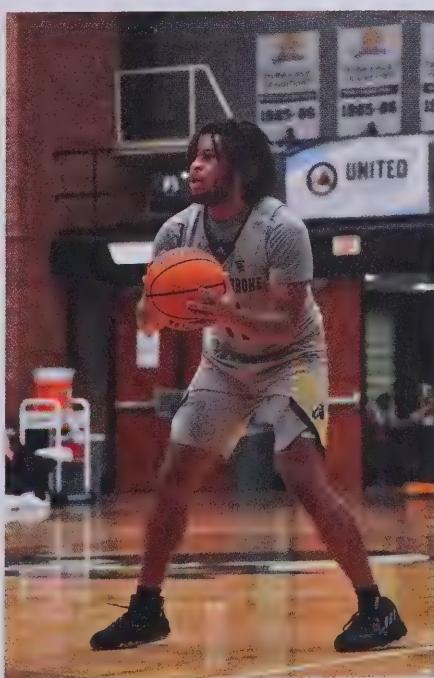
With the No. 1 seed in the conference tournament, the Braves had a bye to the semifinal round, where they were upset by Belmont Abbey on March 4. The Crusaders lost to the Emmanuel Lions in the final the next day. The Braves were the second seed in the NCAA Southeast Regional but lost to the seventh-seeded North Georgia Nighthawks, a former Peach Belt Conference foe, in the quarterfinal round on March 11 in Augusta, Ga.



Front Row, Left to Right: Zy McLean, Lureon Walker, K.J. Walker, Javonte Waverly, Bradlee Haskell, Nygell Verdier, JaJuan Carr, Donovahn Keyes, Kam O'Connor

Back Row, Left to Right: Syvon Holland, Hayden Smith, Peyton Mann, Bryce Brown, Elijah Cobb, Jakari Gallon, Amare Miller, Qon Murphy, Cortez Marion-Holmes

BASKETBALL



Scoreboard	
UNCP	OPP
74	Newberry 66
74	Catawba 73
68	Fayetteville State 58
75	Columbus State 72
72	Saint Augustine's 58
62	Shaw 60
61	Virginia State 58
76	Francis Marion 89
72	Emmanuel 56
68	Mount Olive 63
88	King 62
82	Lees-McRae 74
73	Columbus State 65
78	Converse 63
82	Southern Wesleyan 58
90	Chowan 79
83	North Greenville 62
84	Erskine 62
71	Barton 70
83	Francis Marion 71
108	Mount Olive 83
96	King 72
86	Southern Wesleyan 64
71	Converse 57
93	Barton 74
87	Chowan 61
66	Emmanuel 81
87	Belmont Abbey 51
67	Belmont Abbey 77
58	North Georgia 76





WOMEN'S

1) Zaria Clark defends against Fayetteville State in a game where she scored 8 points.

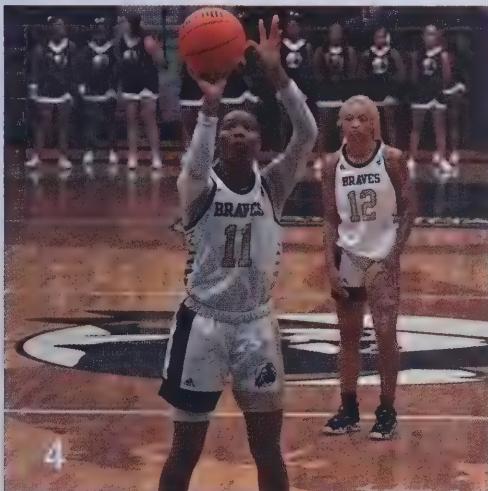
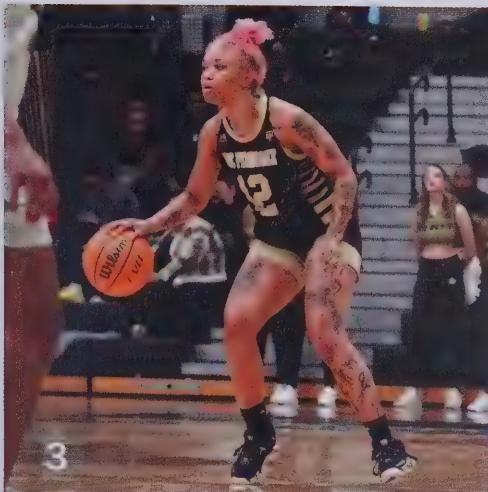
2) Point guard Aniah McManus gets two defensive rebounds and two assists against Mount Olive University.

SCOREBOARD

UNCP	OPP	
35	High Point	64
22	NC State	81
51	Coker	63
54	Wingate	55
44	Fayetteville State	48
64	Newberry	68
47	Mount Olive	57
61	St. Augustine's	58
69	Francis Marion	66
80	Emmanuel	73
48	Lenoir-Rhyne	71
73	King	71
60	Lees-McRae	44
67	Catawba	58
59	Limestone	48
73	Converse	44
74	Southern Wesleyan	66
57	Chowan	55
84	North Greenville	37
69	Barton	47
61	Francis Marion	66
54	Erskine	26
58	Mount Olive	42
64	King	43
64	Southern Wesleyan	52
52	Converse	25
65	Barton	56
63	Chowan	54
52	Emmanuel	60
51	Belmont Abbey	55
69	Mount Olive	49
72	Francis Marion	68
56	Belmont Abbey	46
40	Catawba	57



BASKETBALL



The season had a bumpy start as the team lost the first several games, including a conference matchup against Mount Olive on Nov. 22. They earned their first victory in late November against St. Augustine's in Raleigh, 61-58. In mid-December the Braves defeated King University in Bristol, Tenn., for the start of a nine-game win streak that included a crushing defeat of North Greenville, 84-37, in front of the home fans on Jan. 14.

Interrupted by a loss at Francis Marion, the Braves then picked up a seven-game win streak, during which they ripped into the King Tornado at home 64-43 and soared past the Converse Valkyries in Spartanburg, S.C., 52-25.

The Braves finished the season 16-4 in Conference Carolinas and then plowed through the tournament, including a thrilling overtime defeat of Francis Marion in the semifinals on March 4 at Jerry Richardson Indoor Stadium, and a decisive victory against top-seeded, nationally ranked Belmont Abbey for the tournament championship! It's the program's first tournament crown in the NCAA D2 era. They joined the men's team at the NCAA Southeast Regionals, making UNCP the only D2 school to send both teams to that series. The Braves' postseason ended with a defeat against Catawba in the quarterfinals on Mar. 10.

Kelci Adams was named to the "Elite 23" in Conference Carolinas for her GPA.

3) Alcenia Purnell makes two 3-pointers in a home game against Mount Olive, plus two rebounds and four assists.

4) Zaria Clark makes four out of six free-throw attempts in a non-conference loss to the FSU Broncos.



Left to Right

Front row: Tamia Morris, Jada Coleman, Aniah McManus, Alcenia Purnell, Kelly Luck, Kelci Adams, Kalaya Hall

Back row: Courtney Smith, Malea Garrison, Lillian Flantos, Hannah Russell, Amazriah Rawls, Maya Hoods, Zaria Clark

Right: Haleigh Baker of the dance team keeps spirits up during the Concord game.

Below: (L to R) Cheerleaders Cameron Holder, Jadaya Asor-Sallah, Skyla Miller and

Jordan Redmon are ready to inspire the crowd at the Homecoming pep rally.

Below right: Mahala Treish is a senior and captain of the cheer team.



Ayanna Smith



Ayanna Smith is a senior majoring in psychology. She is originally from Wilmington, N.C. After graduation, she plans on continuing her studies by going to graduate school for child psychology. During her free time, she enjoys listening to music and reading. Throughout her college career, she has found it difficult to balance her social life and being a full-time student. However, her time here as a student has taught her that, "Without preparation, you can't proceed to your destination."

Ayanna is a cheerleader and says that being part of the Spirit Squad has helped her to develop her confidence and build strong relationships with people who are different from her. She loves that the team always comes together as a family even through tough times. Ayanna says that after graduation she will miss trying new stunts during practice. She advises any future Spirit Squad member to be yourself, especially when finding yourself in the position of being the "new person." Make sure to enjoy it while it lasts! Braves fans can find Ayanna smiling and cheering on the Braves at football and basketball games.

Ayanna says the strangest thing she has experienced here at UNC Pembroke was waking up to noise outside her residence hall window, only to discover the noise was being made by a dog and hog playing outside!

SPREADING SPIRIT



The Spirit Squad is made up of two teams: the cheer team and the dance team. Together they are seen at sporting events cheering on the Braves from the sidelines. Both teams are competitive, and members must demonstrate mastery of the required moves and routines during the tryout period. All Spirit Squad members are also required to be in good academic standing in order to participate in events.

Dance team captain Haleigh Baker says "I am thankful for the countless memories that I have made, lifelong friendships I have gained, lessons I've learned, growth I've encountered, and to have had such a wonderful coach [former cheerleader Kristen Freeman], who has truly been a remarkable role model!" She describes the Spirit Squad as her home away from home.

Another important member of the Spirit Squad is Bravehawk, the mascot. Anyone donning this costume must be a cheerful and excitable Braves fan who can make other fans smile with his antics and dance moves, even if merely shaking his tail feathers.



Left to Right: Zeta Tau Alpha, Omega Psi Phi tabling during Pembroke Day, Chemistry Club in the Homecoming parade, Black Student Union enjoying Pembroke Day, CRU winter party



Student organizations: we see them, we're a part of them, and we love them. From Greek life to the Student Government Association, the clubs and organizations on campus strive to provide a safe and inviting space for everyone who wants to take part. While some organizations are academically oriented and others are more about the social aspects of college, all accept the diversity of the student body. The unity walk on International Peace Day (**right**) was a great opportunity for different organizations to come together for the same message about acceptance and belonging. While social advocacy, service and fundraising do characterize the efforts of many student organizations, members can also demonstrate artistic talents, participate in various competitions, pray together, play together, and just hang out. Experiencing new things and meeting new people outside of the classroom is part of what makes college special.





A LIFETIME OF SISTERHOOD

ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA

ALPHA PI OMEGA

ALPHA SIGMA ALPHA

KAPPA DELTA

SIGMA GAMMA RHO

SIGMA OMICRON EPSILON

ZETA PHI BETA

ZETA TAU ALPHA

UNCP offers students the chance to become lifelong members of a group that values leadership, philanthropy and sisterhood. The sorority community is diverse and connected to a worldwide network. Each organization has its own motto, colors, charities and rituals, but they share common values. Greek programming at UNCP centers around four themes, or “pillars,” namely, Belonging, Service, Academics, and Personal Development. Thanks to all of those who submitted candid photos or sat for group portraits so the Indianhead could represent their many activities throughout the year.





ALPHA PI OMEGA

Front Row, Left to Right:

Jayden Worriax, Rhyane Jacobs, Kaloni Walton

Back Row, Left to Right:

Angelina Henhawk, Tara Maldonado, Noelani Lynch, Bella Locklear

ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA

ALPHA

Left to Right:

Taliyah Daniels, Michaela Tisdale, D'Amrah Rowdy, Erika Patterson, Shelby Perry



ZETA TAU ALPHA

Left to Right:

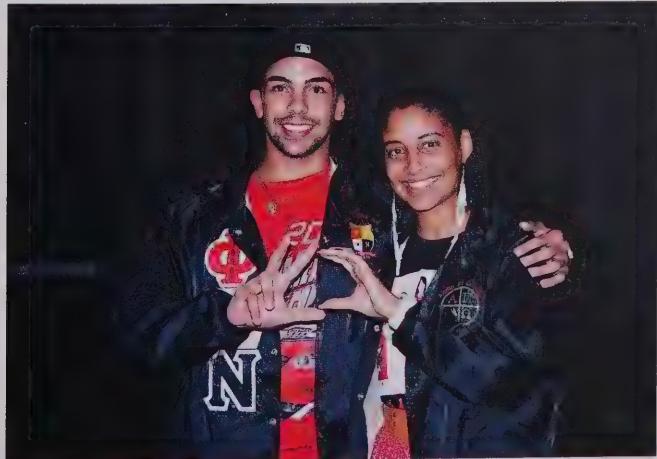
Skyla Miller, Emma Worsham, Taylor Moncreif, Emme Jolicouer, Jessie Hughes, Leah Anderson

Be bold.



Be more.

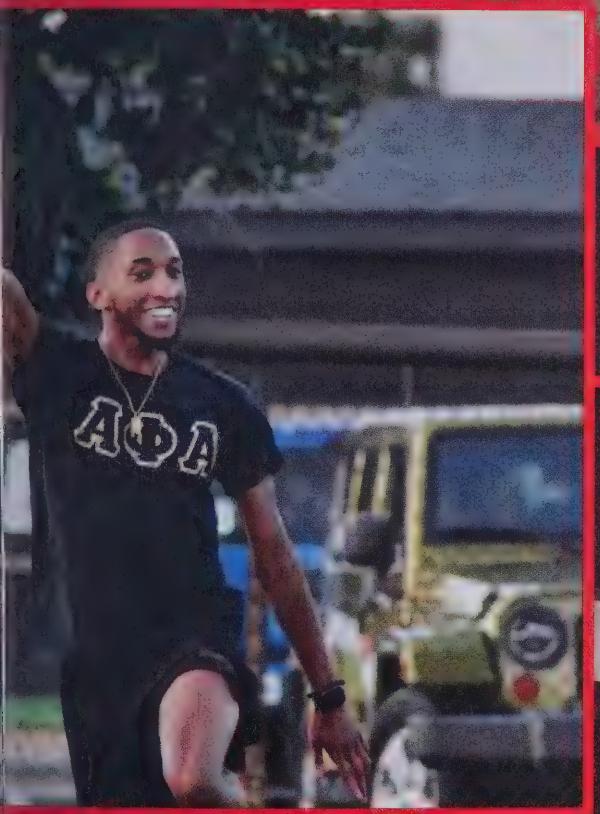


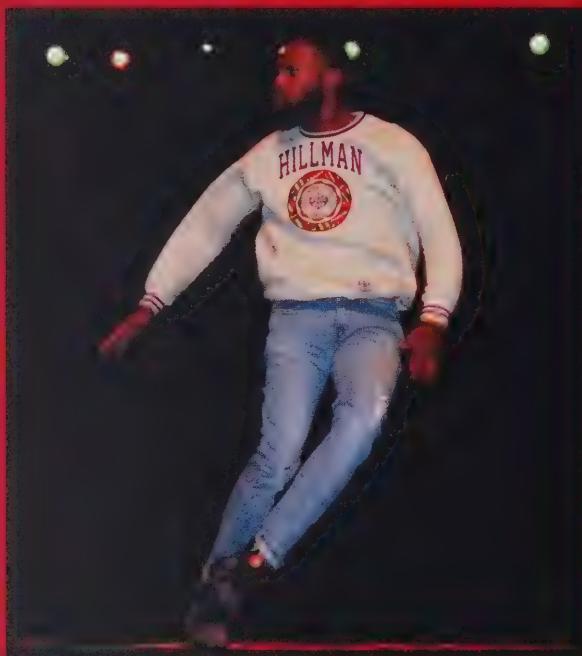




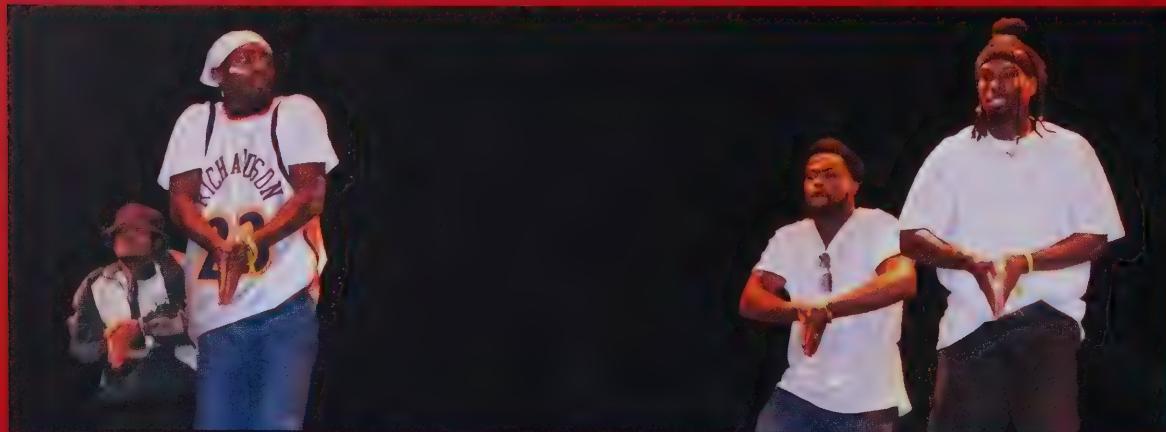
FRATERNITIES





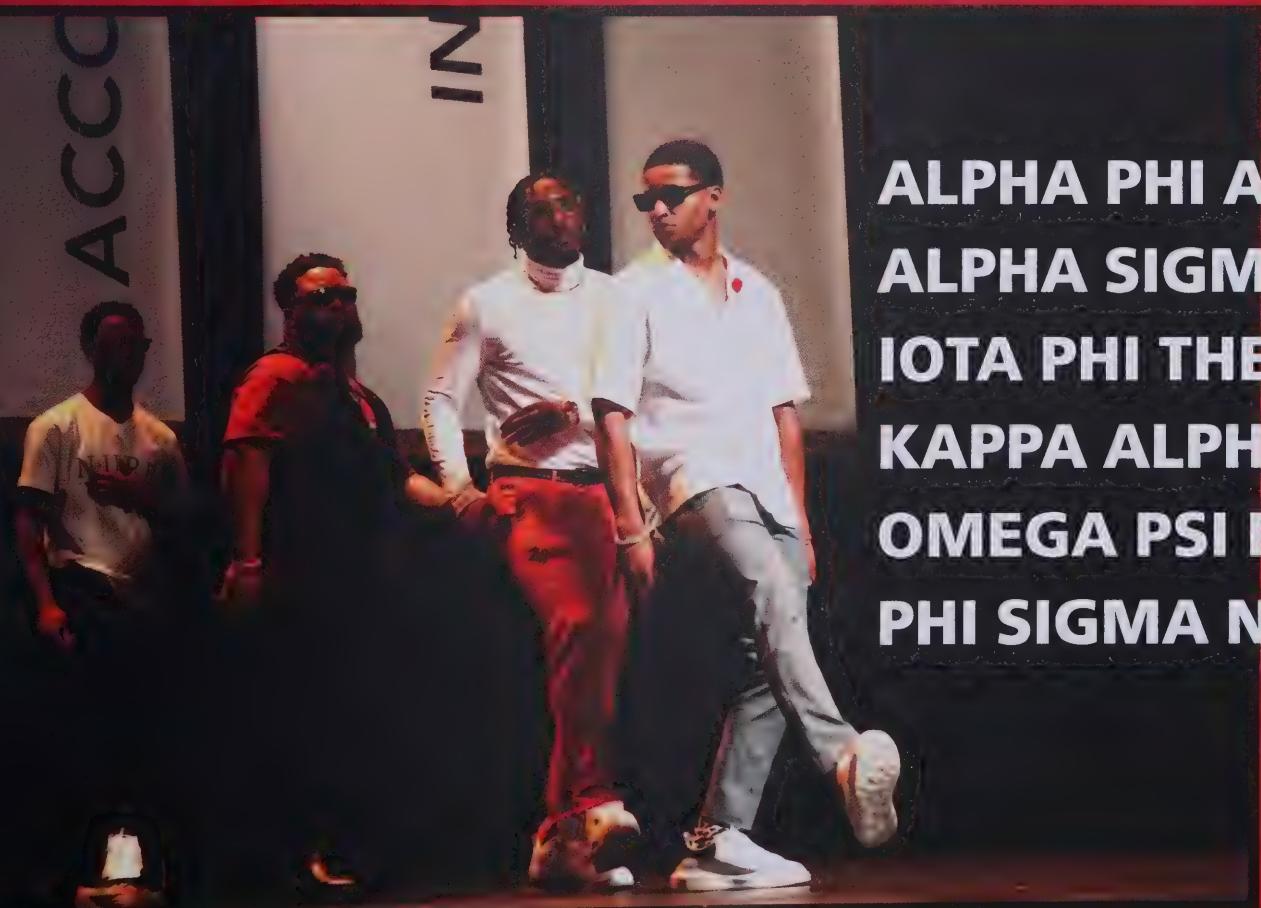


Fraternities at UNCP offer camaraderie on campus and lifelong friendships after graduation. They provide leadership and service opportunities while encouraging academic success and friendly competition. At UNCP a student must maintain a 2.5 GPA to be in a Greek organization, but some require higher than that. The groups often provide entertainment for the entire student body, such as the annual Greek stroll-off.





FRATERNITIES



**ALPHA PHI ALPHA
ALPHA SIGMA PHI
IOTA PHI THETA
KAPPA ALPHA PSI
OMEGA PSI PHI
PHI SIGMA NU**



Above: Black Student Union



"You just try things on until you find something that feels like you."

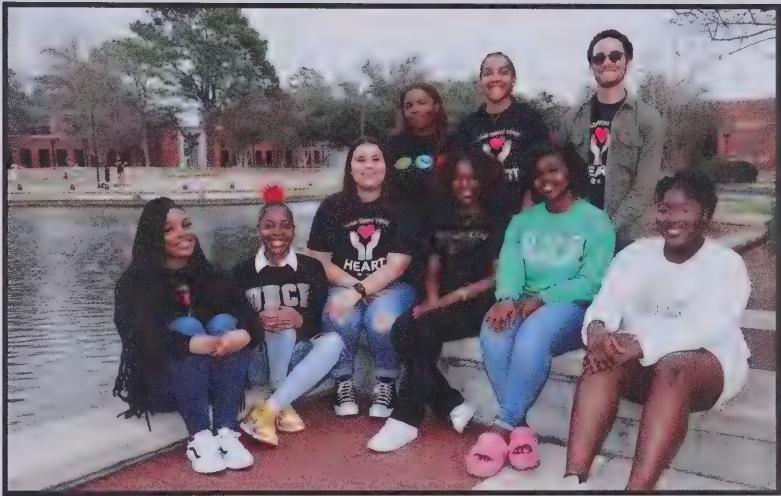
That's a line from Stranger Things Season 3, when the characters Max and Eleven go shopping. We think it's a fitting motto for getting involved on campus, and staying involved, with any number of clubs, student organizations and interest groups. Some are major-related, like the Accounting Student Association (facing page, top) and Health Careers Access Program (bottom), while some are cultural, faith-based or interest-related as seen here and on the following pages.

Top: Inkwell
Above: Agriculture Club
Left: Olé
Right: Acto Latino





Below: LEAD Fellows







The **Agriculture Club** has an annual sale of chrysanthemums. The **Rocket Team** builds projectiles and competes nationally. The **Chemistry and Physics Club** hosts a STEM fair. **Alpha Chi** is an honor society sponsored by the Maynor Honors College. **Active Minds** is a campus chapter of a national organization with a platform of mental health awareness and education.



Alpha Chi Honor Society: (Back row, L to R) Dr. Joshua Busman, Dr. Teegan Decker, Peace Ajirotutu, Gordon Byrd (Front, L to R) Hannah Irving, Jaelyn Wilson

Student Government Association

The Student Government Association (SGA) is a political organization that represents and provides security for the interests of the student body. The 2022-23 student body president was Taliyah Daniels and the vice-president was Yamilkal Hernandez Sanchez. This year was the 75th session of SGA. In August they held a candlelight vigil for Senator Nicholas Mathus who died unexpectedly over the summer. They co-sponsored the Harmony Walk in September, and they provided financial support to many organizations, including the Indianhead. In January they sponsored a campus-wide litter sweep. In April they programmed events for Mental Health Awareness Week. Legislation they worked on included a suggested bereavement policy regarding attendance.



Left to Right back row: Destiny Whitley, Brittany Best, Aspen Andersson, Yamilkal Hernandez Sanchez, De'Maurion Shelley, Gabe Hall, Alaquia Jacobs, Carrington Smith, Waleed Hamman, Cailyn Fontaine, Shelby Perry, Taliyah Daniels, Dekiah Pearson, Macy Freeman, Magally Ortiz-Rojas, Anesu Mavhiya, Selma Mifdal, Tiffany Smaw

"Living a life of service"

Taliyah "Tilly" Daniels is a Longwood, N.C., native. She takes pride in the small community she calls home, where she is surrounded by her mom, siblings, cousins and other family members. Taliyah appreciated that she was able to have a similar small, tight-knit family feeling and experience by living on campus. She tried a few different majors during her college career, but settled on political science. She found this major a good fit because she enjoys leading and advocating for individuals who may believe they don't have a voice.

Taliyah is active as a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, and a LEAD fellow. She says the connections she has made with individuals in these organizations have impacted her and she knows they will be lifelong friends. Taliyah believes COVID-19 made her final college years a little strange because of the lack of involvement from students. That, and becoming a "real" adult, makes graduating bittersweet for her, but she is also excited to come back to UNCP for visits to see how the university will change. Taliyah is currently weighing her options for life after college but is excited to venture on to grad school, and has applied to several presidential scholar programs.

Her advice to freshmen and other students includes this tip: "Anyone can be a leader, and it starts with getting involved."



PEMBROKE PAC

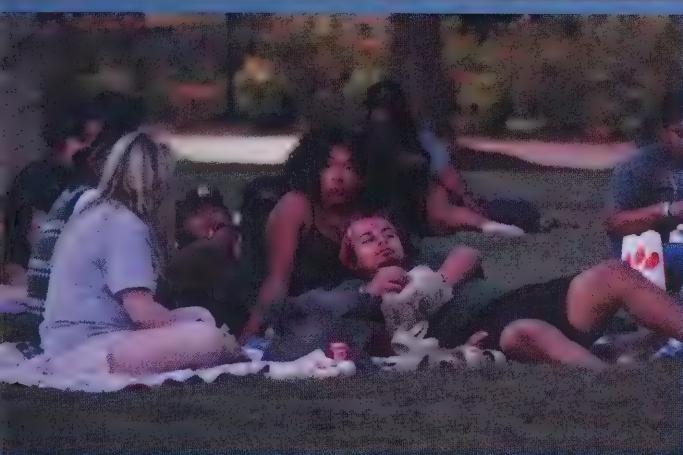
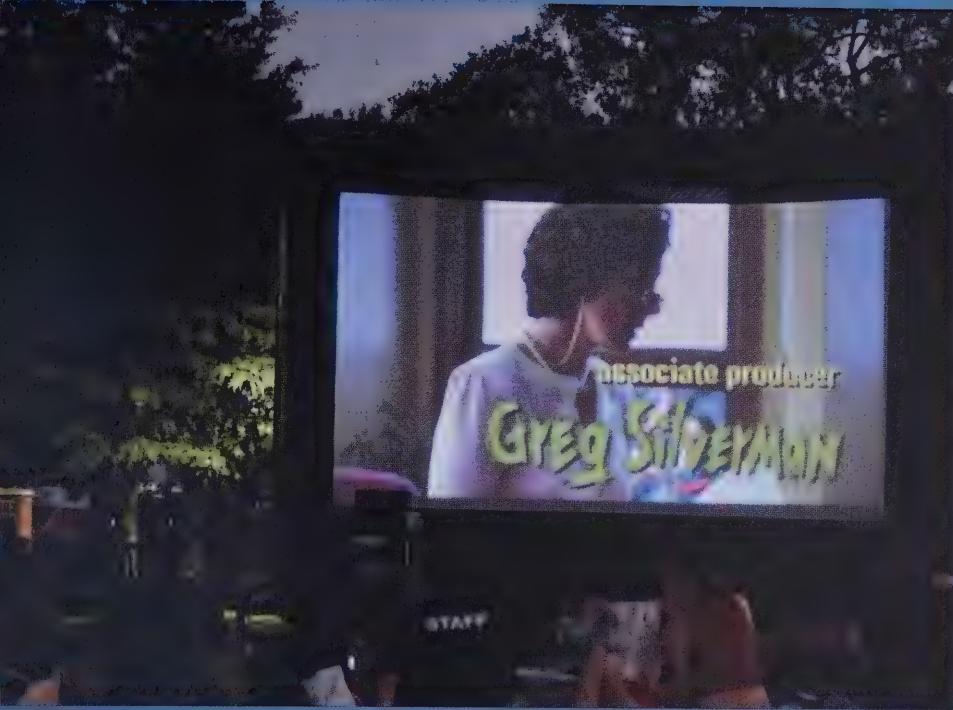
ACTIVITIES COUNCIL

Pembroke Activities Council is a student-led organization that brings exciting activities and events to campus.

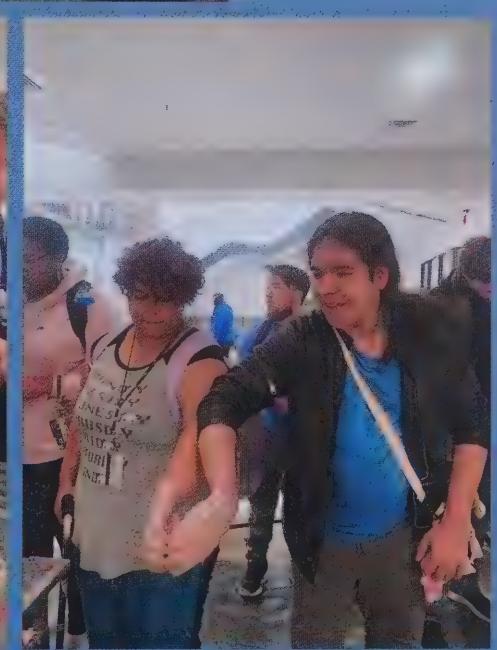
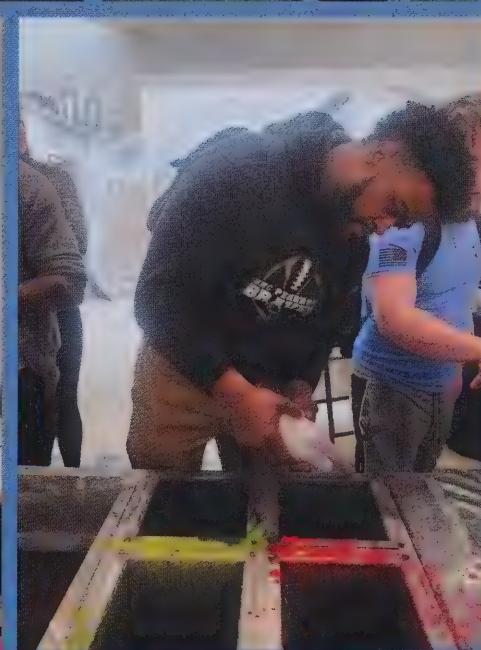
Below: Students such as Olivia Sell show their school spirit by creating their own stuffed hawk. **Bottom Left:** Chancellor Cummings shows some school spirit with PAC Supervisor Bailey Miller (left) and PAC officers Shelby Perry and Isabel Olivares.



MOVIE ON THE LAWN

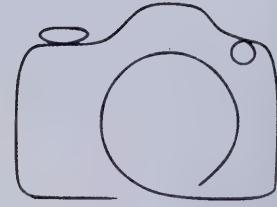


Above and Left:
There's nothing like a cool fall night with snacks, sketch book, blankets and cuddles to pair with a classic romcom "10 Things I Hate About You."



Above: Making wax hands was a strange but fun experience that required numbing your hands in ice cold water for about a minute before soaking them in hot wax until it thickens, then cooling your hands off once more in ice cold water before the firm mold is gently pulled off your hands. Afterward, students had the option to add some color to their design.

Student Media



Back Row, Left to Right: Victor Mays, Abigail Chabala, Andrew Thrift, Anthony Vazques, Alan Obi **Middle Row:** Lydia Cooper, Mahala Treish, Nicole Cook, Alana Peterson, Raven Hanning **Front:** Managing Editor Dai-Shon Donald and Editor-in-Chief Anayah Peterson **Not pictured:** Adviser Dr. Darlene Natale

The Pine Needle newspaper staff concentrated on an overhaul and fine-tuning of their website and published most of their stories online this year, which gets their news out quicker in a medium they can promote on social media. They produced a keepsake issue of the Pine Needle in November and April that included both online and new content. Students learn skills in layout and design, using the Adobe InDesign software. The group moved into new offices that were made possible when the American Indian Heritage Center remodeled the front half of Old Main's second floor.



Below Left: Pine Needle entertainment editor Victor Mays checks out some early drafts of the April compilation issue that will come out on paper.

Below Right: Pine Needle editor-in-chief Anayah Peterson keeps children occupied during Festival at Old Main that was moved into the Aux Gym this year because of the weather.





Above: Yearbook production mostly took place in the Mac lab in Old Main.



Front Row, Rear to Foreground: Antwan Sturdivant, Mykayla Brady, Dr. Litty. **Behind Pillars, Rear to Fore:** Benjamin Rodgers, Alissa Jones, Brooke Bell, Nicole Cook, Camille McDougald, Deshaunte Stephens

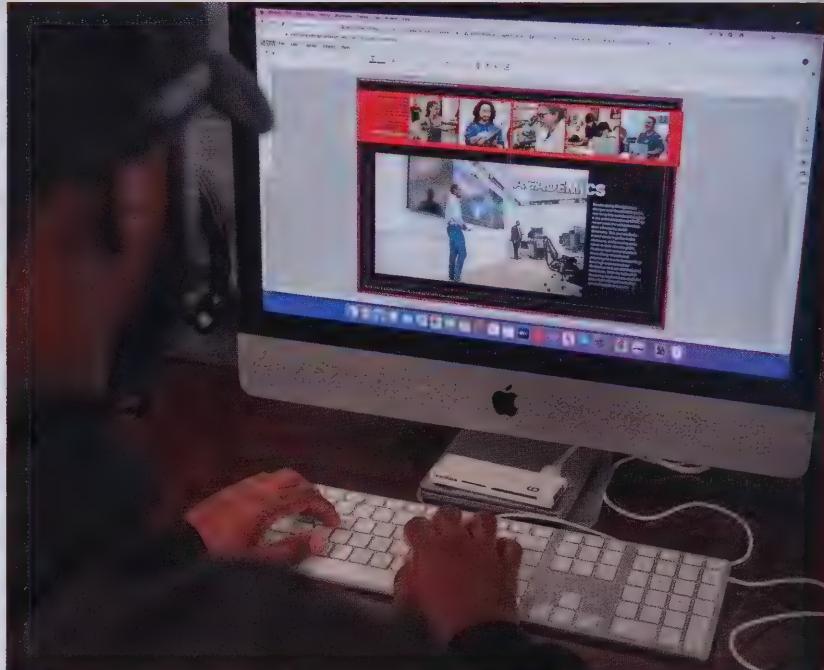
The Indianhead staff tabled at many events this year to distribute the three-year pandemic volume of the book. They got off to a late start with the current volume because a new publishing contract had to go out for bids, while there was discussion of converting to just a magazine for every December and May because of years of dwindling enrollment in yearbook class, lack of participation in portrait-sitting, and the expense of the book, which far outpaces the student fees collected to pay for the book. But still the staff persevered, because students love the Indianhead when they actually see it. The Indianhead staff is grateful for the support of the Student Government Association as well as Student Affairs!



Students in Dr. Emilia Bak's public relations campaigns course, including Jillian Shroyer and Taighee Edwards (**center**) helped to promote the yearbook during Pembroke Day with editors Deshaunte Stephens (**left**) and Celeste Bonilla Aguilar (**right**).

Very inspiring!

Left to Right: Victor Mays of the Pine Needle, with Antwan Sturdivant and Aly Artman of the Indianhead, attended the North Carolina College Media Association annual conference at UNC Charlotte on Feb. 25.



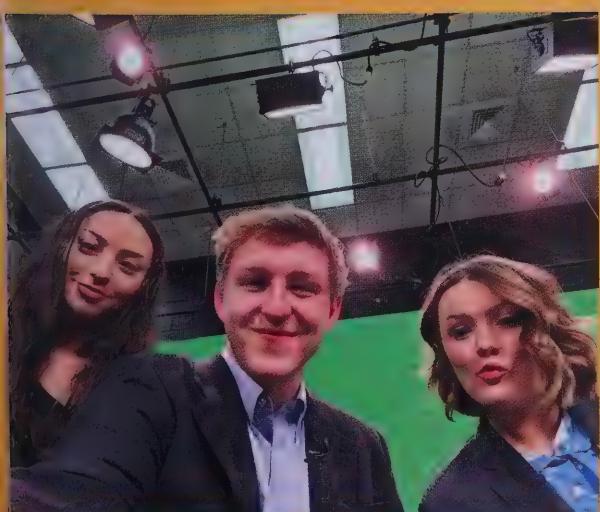
Above: Benjamin Rodgers is an art major who got involved with the Indianhead in spring semester and produced some of the page layouts and original clip art in this volume.

Above Right: Indianhead editor-in-chief Antwan Sturdivant works on the Academics section of the book, using a cloud-based platform called eDesign.

Right: Pine Needle staff, Photo Editor Mahala Treish and Social Media Manager and Photographer Andrew Thrift check drafts of the printed newspaper while Alana Peterson looks on. (Back right corner: Daria Parker)



Left to Right: Donovan Fant, Janae McInnis and Victor Mays rehearse for Carolina News Today on a Tuesday in the Fall.

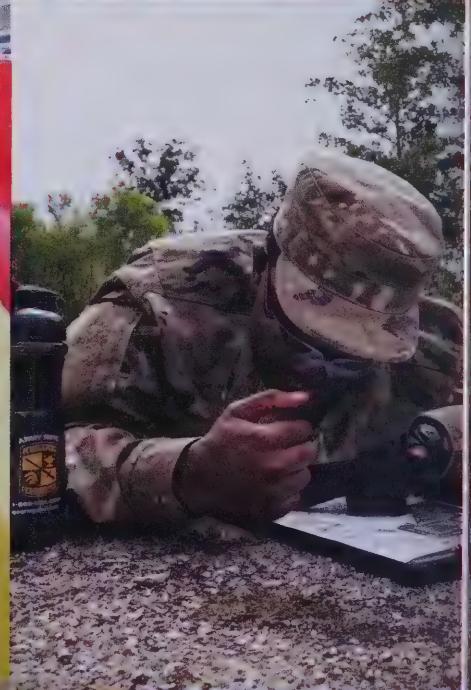


Stay Tuned!

Students have been producing a weekly TV newscast at the university since the Fall of 1991, making this show, currently known as Carolina News Today, the first and longest-running college student newscast in the state. Associate Producer both semesters was broadcasting major Chase Foster and the director was Ja'Quel Williams. Talent for Spring 2023 were Mahala Treish as sports anchor, Andrew Thrift as news anchor, with public relations major Madison Schwenneker also sharing the news anchor desk. Senior broadcasting major Jay Locklear was the producer, and Dr. Jamie Litty is the long-serving adviser.

R H A

Residence
Hall
Association





Art Club



Pictured:
Michael Smith
Laura Moser
Jaylen Bell
Morgan Collins

"The Art Club hosts the art sale every semester. We work hard to allow our members to share their art with the community as well as make extra money for themselves. We also sell donated work or leftover gallery work to raise funds for the club. The art sale is a big part of our organization because it allows for us to express our art skills as a club and allows members to grow independently."

- Alana Peterson

Art Club President



"I love art club because It's a great way to get out and be able to make art with other people!"

-Deja Stevens



Pictured:
Nick Golden
Leah Moore
Bryan Ndum
Deja Stevens





The eSports room is located within the Student Center through the Hawks Nest. The gaming room is right next to the bowling alley.

Front Row (kneeling):

Felix Perez

Middle Row (left to right):

Monika Czartoszewski, Robert Huynh, Julius Johnson, Otis Revell, Erik Myers, Xander Vasquez-Amores, Nick Casina, Jewels Ward, Aaron Bonner

Back Row, (left to right):

Brandi Curtis, Riley Edwards



In January, the eSports Club hosted a Super Smash Bros Ultimate tournament in the Student Center. All students were welcome no matter if you were in the club or not!





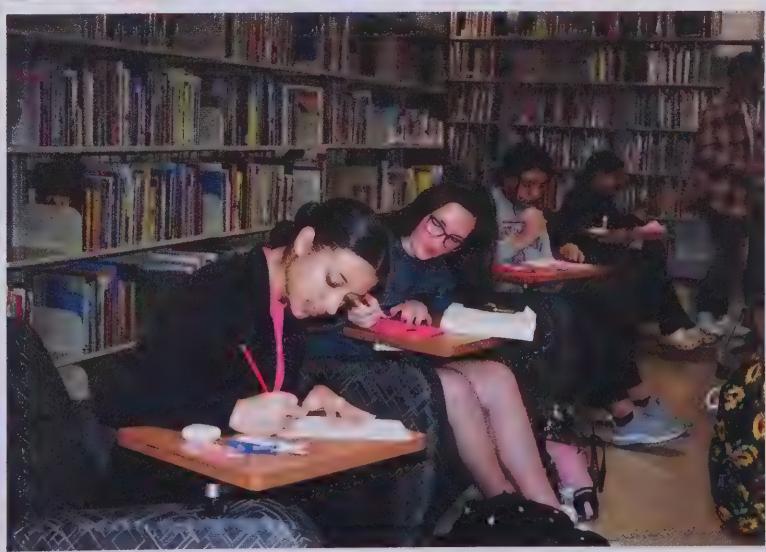
UNCP's clubs and other kinds of organizations are as diverse as the student body, making for a multicultural and colorful experience on campus!

Right: Liz Hunt and Ariel Allbrooks from the club W.O.M.A.N host a "Battle of the Sexes" event where students could discuss topics that got a little heated.

Facing Page: The Native American Student Organization worked on cards for Valentine's Day.

Upper Right Corner: Brother 2 Brother is a mentoring group dedicated to male student success.







Take a peek behind the scenes of the 2022-23 Orientation Leaders. Every spring they get the chance to experience the Southern Regional Orientation Workshop, a conference for colleges all over the southeast region. This year it was held at Florida A&M University in Tallahassee, where the Braves got to meet or reunite with other OLs to learn, grow and bond. The conference offered education sessions and keynote speakers as well as T-shirt swaps and other fun activities.





"You're not alone!"



- 1) Spirit Squad member Morgan Buffington takes a dance class.
- 2) Marc Garcia practices with cymbals in percussion class.
- 3) Pre-nursing freshman Faith Sanders works in anatomy lab.
- 4) Ashton Locklear works on a design in an art class
- 5) Jared Jacobs participates in a service learning event.



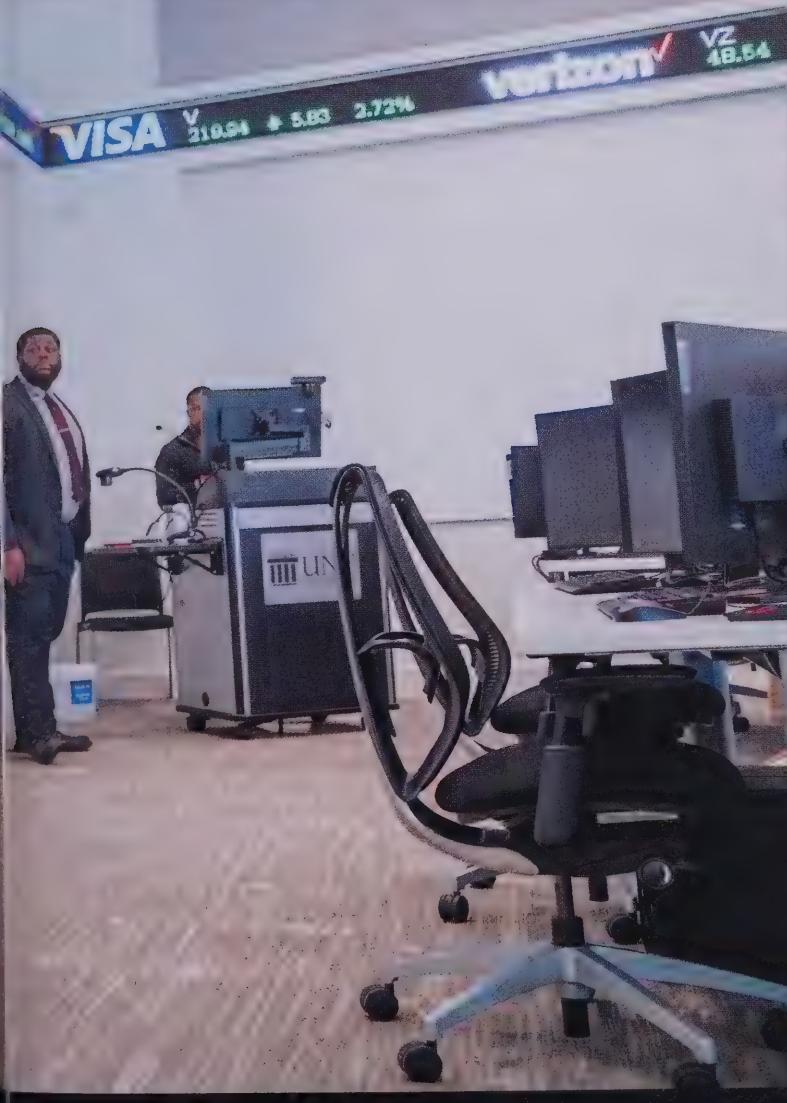


3

4

5

ACADEMICS



Despite going through many changes over the past few years, one thing that remained the same is the great education at UNCP. In recent years the classroom has been affected by social distancing, even as great new spaces have been built for our academic pursuits. This year students were able to move closer together in the classroom while also moving closer to their ultimate goals. Students have spent countless hours doing research, writing and preparing for exams, because they have high expectations for themselves and are determined to meet them. With the help of all the caring teachers here, students know that, with hard work, they are on the path to success.

RISE SYMPOSIUM



Above: Alumna and doctoral student Cheyenne Lee gives the keynote talk at the RISE symposium.

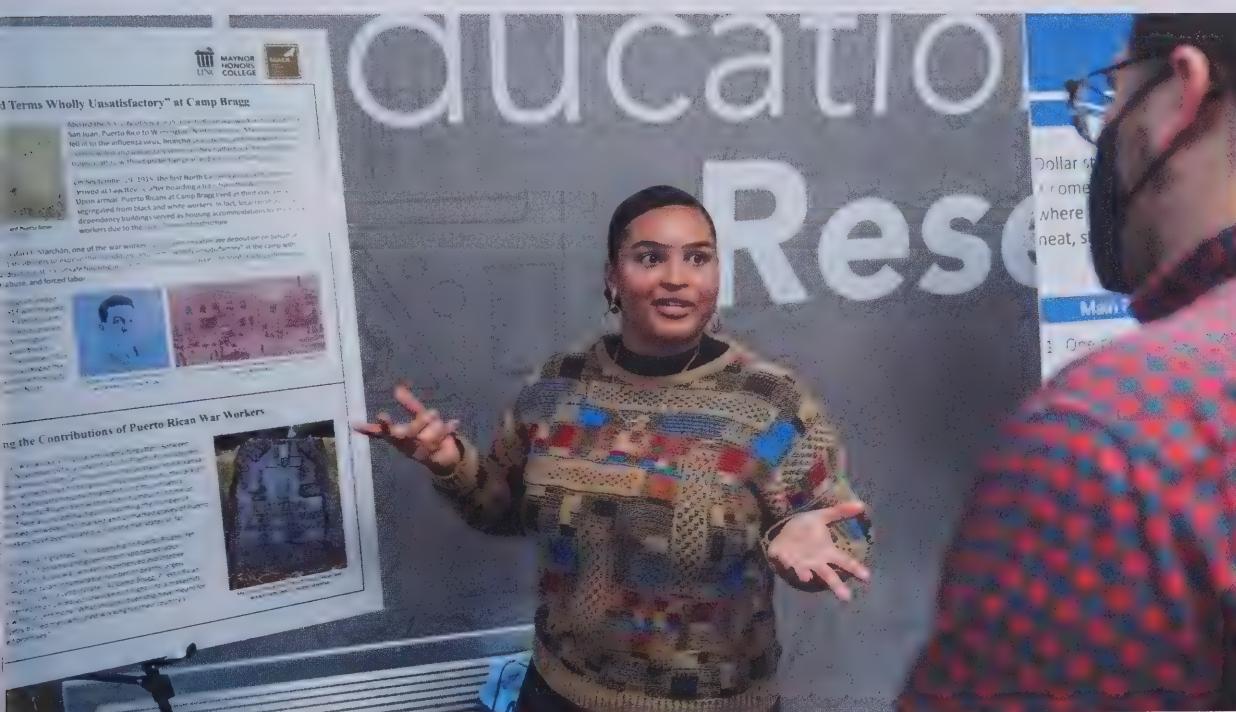
Above right: Jayla Locklear describes her geographical research into lung cancer disparity.
Right: Eric Schwarz shows lettuce from his group's experiment with biochar as a growing medium.



The annual end-of-summer symposium for the Research Initiative for Scientific Enhancement (RISE) was held Aug. 26 in the UC Annex. RISE strives to promote the importance of undergraduate research and underrepresented groups. Family, friends, faculty and staff gathered to view nearly 30 student posters explaining research completed over the course of the year. Faculty mentors for the projects included scholars at UNCP, Chapel Hill, Wake Forest University and beyond. Alumna Cheyenne Lee was the keynote speaker of the evening, and she gave those in attendance insight on "Skills to take to and through the journey," while praising the opportunities afforded by UNCP's small class size.

PURC SYMPOSIUM

UNCP hosted the 16th annual Pembroke Undergraduate Research and Creativity Symposium on April 10, 2022, in the Livermore Library. This event showcased the scholarly achievements of more than 90 students and faculty mentors. Participants displayed their hard work through posters, artifacts and oral presentations. This year's symposium made room for 55 presentations. At the closing ceremony, awards were presented to recognize select students and mentors for their accomplishments.



Left: Jessica Muniz (REACH Fellow) presents her findings on Puerto Rican war workers during World War I.



Left: Donique McLaurin shows a drawing full of personally meaningful symbolism.

What's All The Buzz About?

Bees make for strange lab partners, but with the help of the faculty and staff in the Department of Biology, students continue to maintain and grow the Campus Garden & Apiary located out at Pine Cottage. The apiary consists of nine honeybee hives. Students have the opportunity to sign up for a beekeeping course, where they learn about honeybee biology and hive care. In collaboration with the Garden & Apiary team, the Science Education Club sells honey and honey-based products, such as soap and lip balm. All proceeds are used to support the apiary, garden and Science Education Club.

More than 100 varieties of plants are grown each year, giving students wonderful hands-on learning opportunities. Specialty gardens and beds include herbs, gourds, a “three sisters” garden and a tea garden. Blueberry bushes and a managed meadow make the site a comprehensive outdoor lab. The advisers welcome volunteers and offer research internships focused on agriculture, horticulture, bees, pollen and flowers. The Agriculture Club holds a sale of chrysanthemums in the fall. “Kids in the Garden” is a grant-funded annual summer camp for local youth to learn about plant science and horticulture, pollen, insects and geographic information systems. UNCP students can work as interns or managers for the camp and function as near-peer mentors.



Left to Right:
Beekeeping trainees
Kaitlyn Pressley,
Mercedes Yanick,
Alisabeth Ramos,
Abigail Lowry,
Maggie Bonnette,
Tiana Lowry, Delsin
Burkhart and
Timothy Osborne



Left: Dr. Kaitlin Campbell watches as a student uses a smoker to sedate the bees for handling.

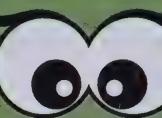


**UNCP Campus Garden & Apiary
Science Education Club**

Goats Milk & Honey Soap Small - \$2, Medium - \$4, Large - \$7	*Honey 1 lb jar - \$14 or 2 lb jar - \$22	Lip Balm Variety Flavors - \$2
Honey Sticks 0.25 cents each	Beeswax Lotion 2 oz - \$5 or 4 oz - \$8	



WHO LET THE OWLS OUT?

H  O O T H  O O T!



Personnel at the Campus Garden discovered some strange inhabitants in February. Two great horned owl nestlings had apparently fallen from a tree and were spotted in a field across the driveway. With some quick thinking, they called a group called A Wild Life: Center for Wildlife Rescue, Rehabilitation, and Release located in Lumberton. Rebekah and Thomas Kriston came as soon as they could and were able to scoop up the owls and place them in a prepared basket to simulate the platform nests of these raptors (right). Two UNCP employees from the Facilities department came out for the lift operation and helped get the owls back up in a tree. The nestlings survived, and their parents tended to them. Dr. Katherine Thorington from the UNCP Department of Biology frequently checked on their welfare. She even spotted two other owl nestlings in another nearby nest.





Left: Other owl nestlings were spotted in trees on the same acreage.



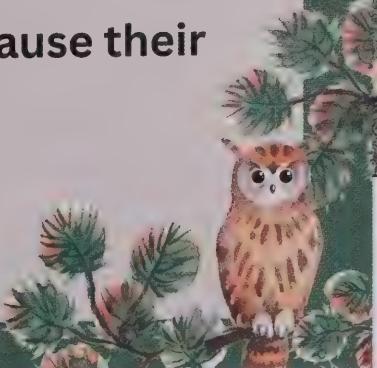
Above: By March the owls were big and looking perfectly well cared-for.

Left: Owls resting in their “nest.”



DID YOU KNOW?

- Despite the name 'Great Horned Owls' these birds don't actually have horns.
- Great Horned Owls have a great sense of hearing. They can hear sounds 10 miles away.
- Great Horned Owls were among the first birds to nest in North America.
- Sometimes Great Horned Owls are called 'Cat Owls' because their faces resemble cats.



Above: Rebekah and Thomas Kriston tend to the fallen owls before taking them into the basket lift truck.



Above, Left to Right: State senator Phil Berger, Sally Thomas, Jim Thomas, Gov. Roy Cooper, Chancellor Cummings, First Lady Rebecca Cummings and NC House Speaker Tim Moore participate in the ribbon cutting that formally dedicates the new James A. Thomas Hall.

Right: State dignitaries, alumni, faculty, staff and the building's namesake listen to brief speeches during the dedication ceremony on April 27.



Business Is Booming

A ribbon-cutting ceremony on April 27, 2022, marked the official opening of the new James A. Thomas Hall, although classes began there in January. Hundreds of people gathered to hear remarks from Chancellor Cummings and from state and local officials and to tour the facilities, which include the 300-seat Upchurch Auditorium. The auditorium was made possible by a \$1 million gift from Wyatt and Mary Upchurch, in memory of their late son, who died at the age of 16. Mr. Upchurch was a former Hoke County commissioner and founder of Tar Heel Turkey Hatchery, who sold his business to Butterball in 2010 and passed away in 2018. Mrs. Mary Upchurch also passed away before the new building was finished.

Dr. Cummings called the building a “new chapter” and a “high watermark in the life of UNC-Pembroke and the Thomas School of Business.” James “Jim” Thomas and his wife Sally have gifted millions to the university for more than 15 years, as evidenced by the Thomas Entrepreneurship Hub, the Thomas School of Business, the Thomas Endowed Professorship in Entrepreneurship, and a \$110,000 gift to the CARE Resource Center in 2017.

Jim Thomas is a Pembroke native, a member of the Lumbee Tribe and prominent Los Angeles real estate developer (as well as a former owner of the NBA’s Sacramento Kings), who is credited with transforming downtown L.A. in the 1980s and 2000s. In dedicating the building, he said Thomas Hall and his investment in the School of Business are an extension of what he had already started to do with the Hub and renovating downtown Pembroke. During closing remarks, Gov. Roy Cooper named Thomas to the Order of the Long Leaf Pine, the state’s highest civilian honor.

After the ceremony, attendees enjoyed refreshments and toured this grand building to see a variety of classroom configurations and collaboration spaces, the stock trading room, career center, lounge, rotunda and Eat Cafe.



Above: Students make final presentations with business plans for local clients in Dr. Nachiket Bhawe’s class.



Above: One of several popular classroom configurations in the new James A. Thomas Hall.



Beyond the Classroom

In September, the History department sent students and faculty to the annual conference of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) in Montgomery, Ala. This was the 107th annual meeting, where the theme was “Black Health and Wellness.” Santeria Reaves and Kristen Carter were featured on a panel where they discussed their work on the Digital Library of American Slavery.

The Department of English, Theatre, and World Languages took students to Madrid and Sevilla in Spain for spring break. Dr. Richard Vela (above), who recently celebrated 45 years at UNCP, took students on a journey into the works of William Shakespeare when they went to Staunton, Va., to see two versions of “The Tempest.”

In October the Department of Philosophy and Religion brought in guest speaker Dr. Francis Su, author of the book “Mathematics for Human Flourishing,” who talked about the exploration and enjoyment of mathematics around the world. They also hosted the 2022 annual meeting of the North Carolina Religious Studies Association, during which faculty presented scholarly papers.

The American Indian Studies department observed Native American Heritage Month in November in a variety of ways, most notably with their annual potluck event known as Native Foodways. Dr. Mary Ann Jacobs published her book, with two co-authors, called “Upon Her Shoulders: Southeastern Native Women Share their Stories of Justice, Spirit, and Community.” Dr. Jane Haladay won the 2023 Randall Kenan Prize for an essay published in *North Carolina Literary Review*.



Left: Dr. Mary Ann Jacobs introduces the motivations behind the annual Native Foodways event that brings members of campus and community together for traditional regional cooked foods highlighting typical indigenous ingredients.



Above, Left to Right: Abraham Vargas-Perez, Tionah Parnell, Aspen Andersson, Sydney Allen (**behind**), Stephany Guzman, Hannah Oxendine, Yoselin Perez Aguilar, Kayley Dowless, Dr. Natalie Love, Reagan Davidson. Back row: Caleb Gilbert, Quinn Bradish



Left: Attending the Association for the Study of African American Life and History conference are (left to right) Aria Huntley, Kristen Carter, Santevia Reaves and Dr. Misti Harper.

Facing page, top: Dr. Vela's class at the American Shakespeare Center (standing back row, left to right) Dr. Richard Vela, Judith Hester, Haley Brixey, Christina Gendron, Noah Ross, Zaveyan Pearson, Maranda Coleman. Kneeling front row: Clavaria Jefferys, Jena Wise

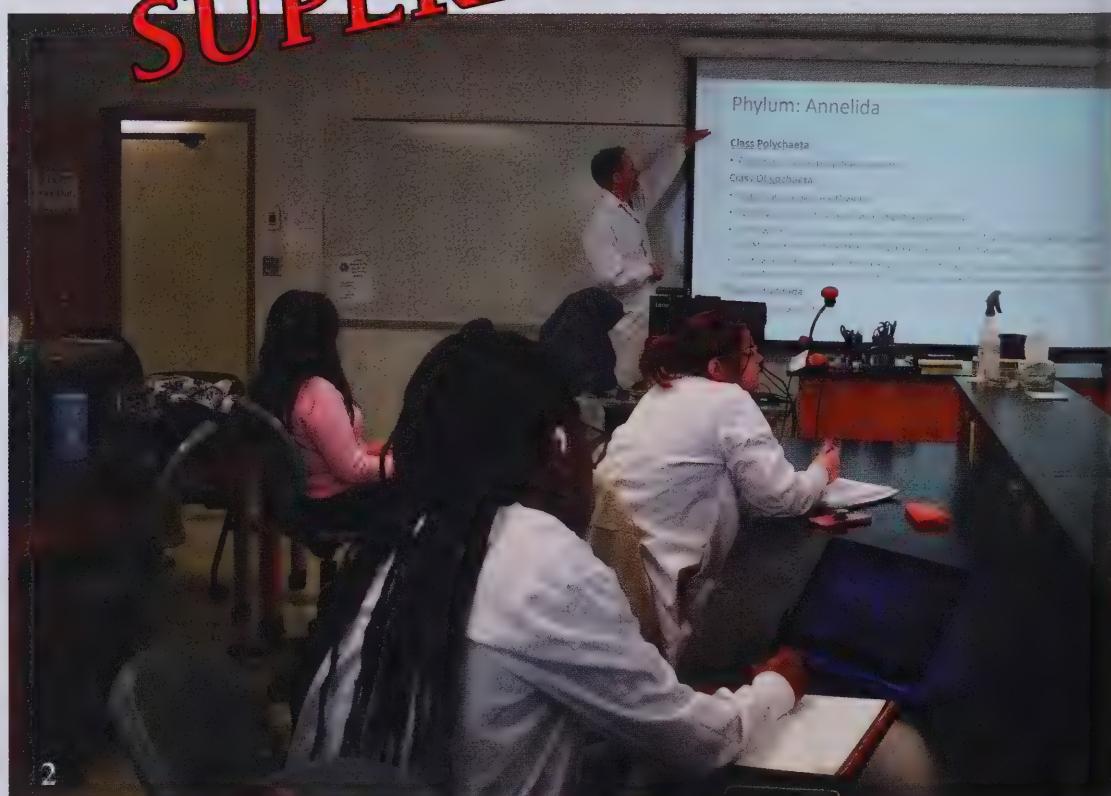
Right: History major Lucas Mcinnis works on corn husk dolls with children in a workshop at the Museum of the Cape Fear in Fayetteville.



1) Students in Dr. Siva Mandjiny's chemistry class do experiments with lab partners.



SUPERNATURAL?





"We're not in Kansas anymore!"

Yes, they made for a strange sight in the Weinstein Health Sciences Building, but faculty and staff in the McKenzie-Elliott School of Nursing held a fun event to help students prepare for the National Council Licensure Exam (NCLEX). Simulation patients integrated characters from "The Wizard of Oz" into medical situations. For example, nursing major Jamie Cierra Bullard (*above*) helped tin man James Crouch, who was suffering from heart disease, and scarecrow Mary Baynes, who was displaying signs of Alzheimer's disease (because she doesn't have a brain, get it?).

Students in the Biology department won awards for outstanding independent research at an international conference in Vancouver, Canada. The conference was the joint annual meeting of the Entomological Societies of America, Canada and British Columbia.

UNCP's Rocket Team placed third in the Mars Challenge at the First Nations thirteenth annual national rocket competition in Wisconsin. The competition gave students a chance to show off their engineering and design skills. The team won \$1,000 and took home the altitude award.



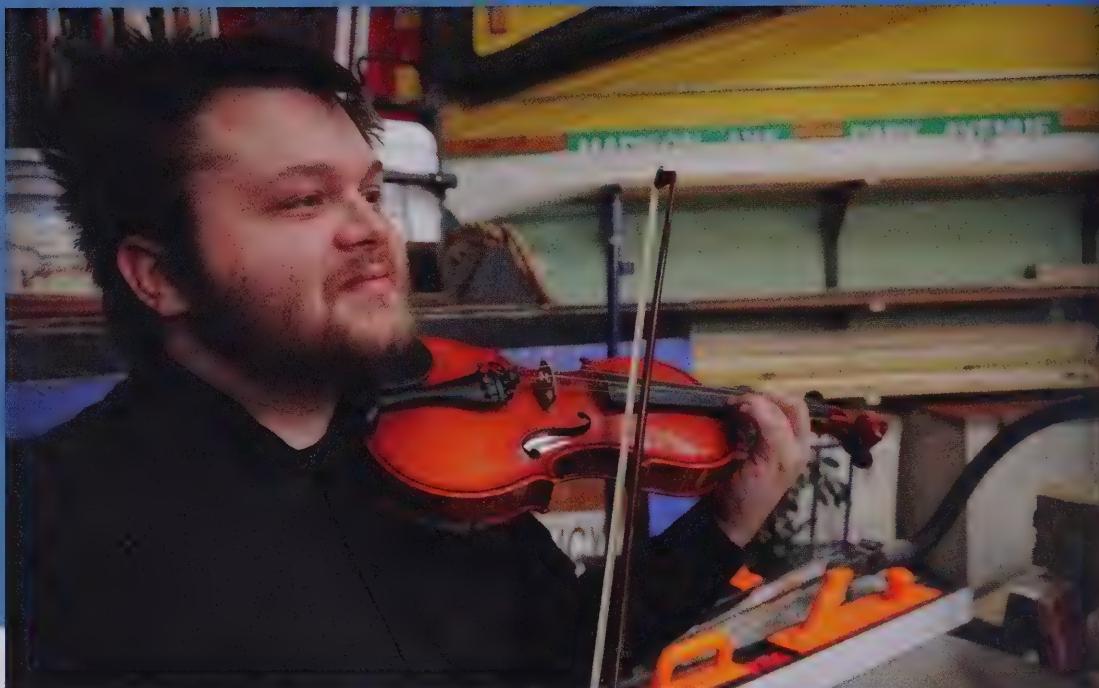
Below, Left to Right: Hunter Ivey, Kinsley Adams, and Erika Rivera at international conference.



Right: Zachary Russell is a senior majoring in music business with a concentration in classical music.

Facing page, top: Faith Harrison plays the role of Daniela in the musical "In The Heights."

Facing page, middle: Students work on their form using a mirror in Carolanne Marano's dance movement class.



“Creativity is intelligence having fun”

—Albert Einstein

Over the course of the year, the A.D. Gallery of the Art department displays many exhibitions. Ranging from surrealist art created by grad students, to the requisite “senior show” required for the B.A. in Art, to juried international works and an exhibit of Japanese prints in January, the wonderful art on display this year inspired students and the public.

The Music department hosts numerous recitals by student ensembles, faculty and guest artists. Their musical theatre program staged Lin-Manuel Miranda’s award-winning “In the Heights” April 24-26, 2022. On Oct. 4 students, families and friends gathered in GPAC to see the fall band concert conducted by Dr. Tim Altman. The department is home to some of our favorite ensembles, including the Spirit of the Carolinas Marching Band. To conclude the fall semester, the department hosted their annual “Holiday Extravaganza” (see pp. 182-183), with proceeds going to music student scholarships.

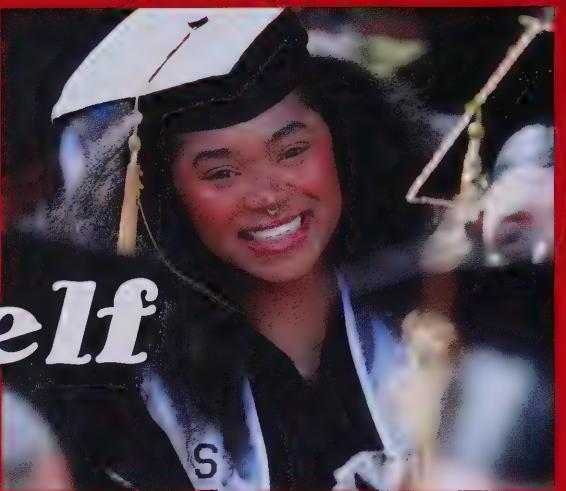
University Theater presented “The Brothers Size” in the fall (see pp. 32-33). To begin the Spring ’23 productions, they produced *Keely & Du* by Jane Martin, directed by Dr. Jonathan Drahos, Feb. 22-24 in the “black box” theatrical space in GPAC.





Left: The concert band is conducted by Dr. Tim Altman on stage at GPAC.

Find Yourself

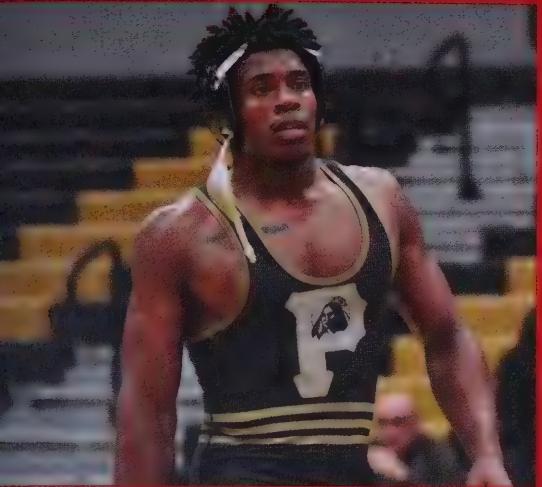


Seniors, p. 130



Graduate Students, p. 1





Juniors, p. 160



Sophomores, p. 162



Faculty and Staff, p. 166



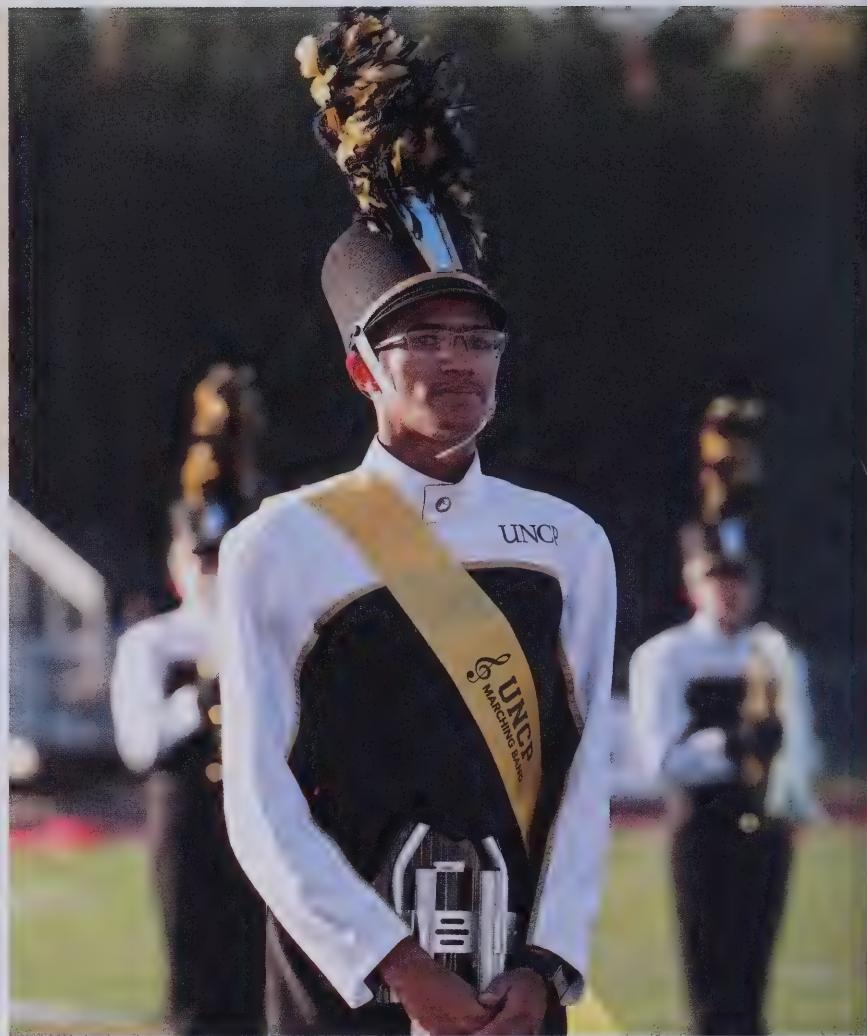
PEOPLE

Many people you meet in college become your friends, and those friends become like family. You take classes together, eat together, study together, play and laugh together. Having so many opportunities and spaces on campus to feel safe and accepted by friends is a big part of what makes UNCP so special.

Other people you meet are the faculty and staff who hope you will learn and succeed. Creating strong friendships, finding mentors, and other forms of networking can help you make the most of your college career. Though we all have separate walks of life here at the university, something we all have in common is striving for graduation day in one way or another!

Right: Phillip Brown is a member of the marching band's drum line.

Below: Tina Wilson presented her whimsical art at the PURC symposium in April of 2022.



Birtukhan Abate

Biology
Raeford

Maria Acosta-Saucedo

Psychology
Raeford

Lauren Adams

Elementary Education
Whiteville



Karen Aguila

Criminal Justice
Burlington

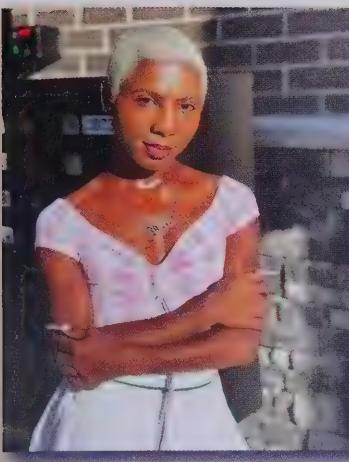
Peace Ajiroctutu

Political Science
Raleigh

Jareyce Alexander

Social Work
Fayetteville





Jareyce Alexander

“I've made my family proud and myself proud and I've done my younger self justice. I hope I've done my best to make myself remembered.”

Jareyce Kendell Alexander, also known as "Jare," is from Fayetteville. He has traveled throughout North Carolina to various places but that's where he's been the longest. He chose his major, social work, because he really wanted to be in a field where he felt like he was making active change. He likes his major because you can do many different things with social work and not stay in one place. Being a resident adviser, which was his first job on campus, really shaped him. He said, "It really built me into a leader so that I felt I could be built to do other things" and it gave him experience to be well rounded. He had other opportunities in other jobs at UNCP and he really connected with the community and his peers. "I think I would be limited if I was a commuter and just left every day and not really gotten involved," he said. Jare is involved in many extracurricular groups: SGA, CASW, Chancellor's Ambassadors, Phi Alpha Honors Society, Spectrum, Active Minds and Conduct Hearing Board.

He has met people who will be significant to him even after he graduates, such as Dr. Alice Locklear. During his time at UNCP she was a constant cheerleader, motivator and mentor. She is someone he will try to stay connected with when he leaves UNCP. He said that being a senior at UNCP made him feel relieved and gracious and he truly feels like he can do anything now. After graduation, he plans to move to Orlando to work for Disney. Eventually he wants to go to NCSU for a master's degree in social work.

Profiled by Jonathan Galindo Aquino

Ariel Allbrooks

Biology
Lumberton

Sydney Allen

Biology
Raleigh

Rashunda Anderson

Criminal Justice
Concord

Victor Arellano

Biology
Fayetteville

Le'Lanni Askew-Holt

Social Work
Fayetteville

Talia Bailey

Social Work
Garner





Ashton Tillett

“Be kind because you never really know what someone else is going through in life and smile. Be kind and work hard and I think enjoy the journey.”

Ashton Mark Tillett, also known as Ash or Ashes, grew up in Belize, a small country in Central America. He describes Belize as a beautiful country to live in and full of nature's wonders. Even though his family's financial situation wasn't great, he says he had a rich childhood in a welcoming and loving community. He moved to the United States in August of 2020 for his further studies, during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic on college campuses. He tried to stay positive and found some leadership opportunities and got involved in different online events and activities.

During his time at UNCP, he was able to connect with people and make friendships he believes will last forever. He was able to become president of the Mental Health Awareness Club as well as become the vice president of the Social Work Club, although his major was Chemistry, with a concentration for pre-health professionals. Ashton worked as a resident adviser in North Hall and was a tutor for organic chemistry and a teaching assistant for organic chemistry, anatomy and physiology. Impressively, he received a research internship opportunity at Harvard Stem Cell Institute. The strangest thing to happen to him while at UNCP (besides the pandemic conditions) is when the power went off for the whole night during a storm. He was scared but excited at the same time. He spent the night playing board games with friends and talking about movies.

Profiled by Rajwardhan Shinde

Kaleb Baker

History
Charlotte



Bethany Barbee

Biology
Mocksville



Ismael Basquez

Kinesiology
Chicago, IL



Madison Bathke

Criminal Justice/Sociology
Stedman



Alyssa Bell

Exercise and Sports Science
Elizabethtown



Lekarrington Bell

Business Administration
Hope Mills



Left: Jillian Shroyer works Pembroke Day for Dr. Emilia Bak's public relations campaigns class.

Below: Senior Day at Braves softball means getting ready to say goodbye to teammates!



Beyonka Berry

Psychology
Wadesboro

Brittany Best

Political Science
Princeton

Celeste Bonilla Aguilar

Psychology
Smithfield



Bethany Brayboy

Criminal Justice
Rowland

Nia Brown

Biology
Shannon

Sabrina Brown

Elementary Education
Easton, PA

Right: Students listen to classmates making formal presentations in a drawing class.

Below: It's critique day in Dr. Adam Walls' introductory sculpture class.



Noah Bryant

Public Relations
Wilmington

Delsin Burkhardt

Biology
Fayetteville

Brittany Campbell

Social Work
Laurinburg



Devontae Carbajal

Bueno
Psychology
Tucson, AZ

Zaidee Carrillo-Cruz

Biology
Lares, Puerto Rico

Dallana Castrejon

Finance/Marketing
Nakina





Sabrina Brown

“My advice to entering freshmen is to try to go out and do things you enjoy, but stay on top of your studies.”

Sabrina Timika Brown also goes by the nickname “Brina.” She was born in New Jersey and later moved to eastern Pennsylvania, which she found less diverse. Sabrina was not able to experience the college life she expected because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic caused classes to be virtual, which prevented her from connecting to people, and she feels like she lost opportunities to make new friends. Even though the pandemic restricted her from a variety of stereotypical college activities, she was able to meet a few people through classes and events when they were permitted. She still feels a connection with those who graduated a year ahead of her. Sabrina joined the Black History Club, which allowed her to meet new people and socialize with different people who shared common interests. She worked at Rockfish Hoke Elementary School in Raeford as a first-grade teacher as an internship for her elementary education major. She enjoyed teaching and receiving rewards from her students, such as hugs and treats. Sabrina was also a tutor for elementary students. Aside from work, during her free time Sabrina would paint, write music and play video games. Throughout her experience at UNCP, Sabrina did not experience anything especially strange besides the pandemic conditions and said overall UNCP was “very peaceful” and she felt safe walking around. She noted the school has made many improvements during her time here, including new buildings.

Profiled by Azalia Martinez Cortes



Abigail Chabala

Journalism/Broadcasting
China Grove

Joetta Chamberlain

Political Science
Philadelphia

Dashia Christian

Sociology
Wagram



Joshua Clubb

Information Technology
Fayetteville

Morgan Collins

English
Charlotte

Alecia Conley

Criminal Justice
Lexington



Joshua Clubb

“If you want to excel in your college life and live the best years, build your niche and make it a stable support system. Find something that drives you, and invest in it.”

Joshua H. Clubb is from Fayetteville and aspires to become an IT specialist. He started at UNCP in Fall of 2019, which was right before the COVID-19 pandemic. He's satisfied with his decision to come here for his degree. "UNCP was certainly my best choice for pursuing my IT major as we have a very supportive Computer Science department," he said. He learned how to become more responsible throughout his four years. His biggest support system was his best friend, Butler. They both helped each other out with their studies even though they had different majors.

As an IT major, Joshua's life mainly revolved around his laptop and quiet spaces. As such, he wasn't involved in many co-curricular activities but was an avid supporter of the Braves football team. From his observation, UNCP has a culture of diversity, and with more international students coming in, it's surely going to get better in the future. The advice he has for freshmen is to get creative. Necessity breeds innovation, he says, therefore he says he would highly encourage underclassmen to "find something that drives you and invest in it. Focus on being the best version of yourself out here." Joshua says it's an honor to be part of the UNCP community and he's looking forward to gaining more skills working with people from all over the world.

Profiled by Austin Rono

Nicole Cook

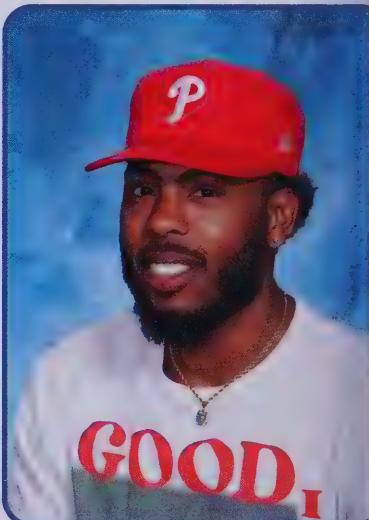
Journalism/Broadcasting
Wake Forest

Alexander Cortes

Computer Science
Raeford

Lamorris Cremartie

Public Relations
Elizabeth, NJ



Jose Cruz-Martinez

Computer Science
Rennert/Shannon

Taliyah Daniels

Political Science
Longwood

Madison Dark

Applied Management Information
Systems
Liberty





Left: Students get in line to participate in the "passport fair" for the School of Business.

Below: Senior Treycie Ford directs a football webcast with Brandon Turay assisting.



Fatimah Davis

General Studies
Clover, SC

Kazhmiri Deberry

Sociology
Morven

Ricky Desormes

Business Administration
Pembroke



Michael Dev

Entrepreneurship
Hope Mills

Mackenzie Dial

Criminal Justice
Maxton

Morgan Dowdy

Biology
Randleman

Right: Waleed Kadi Hamman writes a student's name in Arabic for the International Button Translation event

Below: Coordinators Hannah Irving, Jaelyn Wilson and Peace Ajirotu put together the very first TEDxUNCPEmbroidery.



Kayley Dowless

Biology
Lumberton

William Duff
Marketing
Tarboro

Chinemerem Blossom Edoh

Biomedical Science
Hyattsville, MD



Ashley Edwards

Biology/Chemistry/Music
Westminster, MD

Chisom Ejeh
Biology
Nigeria

Cody Erickson
Information Technology
Lumber Bridge





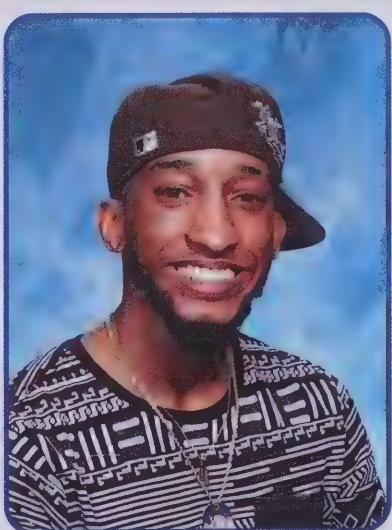
Brittany Campbell

“I want to help people overcome battles that they feel they must face alone, because they have no one or because society has thrown them curveballs.”

“Mama, your baby girl did it!” said Brittany Sheree Campbell, maybe known to you as “Britt Brat.” From the small city of Laurinburg, N.C., Brittany majors in social work. To her, it is not just a job or something that looks good on paper; it is a way to advocate. After graduation, Brittany wants to find a local job in the social work field and gain all the experience she can get in the mental health and substance abuse field. She will be going back to school for her master’s degree and in a few years opening her own firm for people who suffer from addiction. And yes, she will be her own boss.

After her mom passed away, which was two weeks before senior year, Brittany’s whole perspective changed. She started to fall behind in her classes because she did not care for anything anymore, but she gained the strength back to keep pushing. She had a wonderful support system behind her. She found her light again in being a senior and couldn’t be happier to have made this major accomplishment.

Profiled by Tatiyana Connor



Chase Foster

Broadcasting
Fayetteville

Ejeh Franklin

Exercise Physiology
Nigeria

Nigel Freeman

Psychology
Greensboro



Tiyanna Fullwood

Exercise Physiology
Shallotte

Randi Gabbert

Music
Stedman

Megan Gainey

Sociology
Amherst, VA



Lyric L. Troy

“Don’t attend college until you know what you want to major in, and don’t be discouraged about not knowing exactly what you want to do in life.”

Lyric L. Troy is a psychology major from Maxton who moved to Pembroke when she was 13 years old. Lyric said she chose psychology because she wants to “reach people’s minds.” She is on the track and field team, but she also works as a paramedic for Robeson County EMS and St. Paul’s EMS. She originally tried living on campus but says she gained more financial freedom by living off campus. On her days off, Lyric loves to binge watch Netflix series and read apologetic books, which are a defense of one’s religious faith. While in college, she met her spouse and her best friend and other people who will remain significant in her life. The only “strange” thing she can think of about her college career was when a professor told her that if she didn’t show up for test day, she wouldn’t be able to make up the test. In Lyric’s mind, that is very strange for a teacher to do, because, in her experience, normally teachers are very understanding with their students.

The best thing Lyric likes about UNCP is how small the campus is compared to other schools, and she loves the sports programs. Lyric pointed out that the roundabouts on Prospect Road are new, in addition to Thomas Hall and new places to eat and hang with friends. She’s excited and ready to graduate: “I can definitely see the light.” She wants freshmen to know, “It’s perfectly fine to not know what you want to major in at the moment. Don’t attend college until you do know what you want to major in, and don’t be discouraged about not knowing exactly what you want to do in life.”

Profiled by Seonté McKeithan

Caitlyn George

Psychology
Manheim, PA



Caleb Gilbert

Computer Science
Ash



Naomi Gilbert

Political Science
Charlotte



Victoria Gooden

Exercise and Sports Science
Saint Pauls



Concheta Goodman

Public and Nonprofit Administration
Tabor City



Roy Gore

Psychology
Ash





Left: Yamilkal Hernández Sánchez picks up information at the career fair.

Below: Students watch a demonstration of the art of Chinese calligraphy.



Priscilla Graham

Education Studies
Maxton

Haven Guinn

Biology
Red Springs

Robert Harbula

Exercise Physiology
Pittsburgh, PA



Jeffery Harley

Biology
Fayetteville

Xariyah Harper

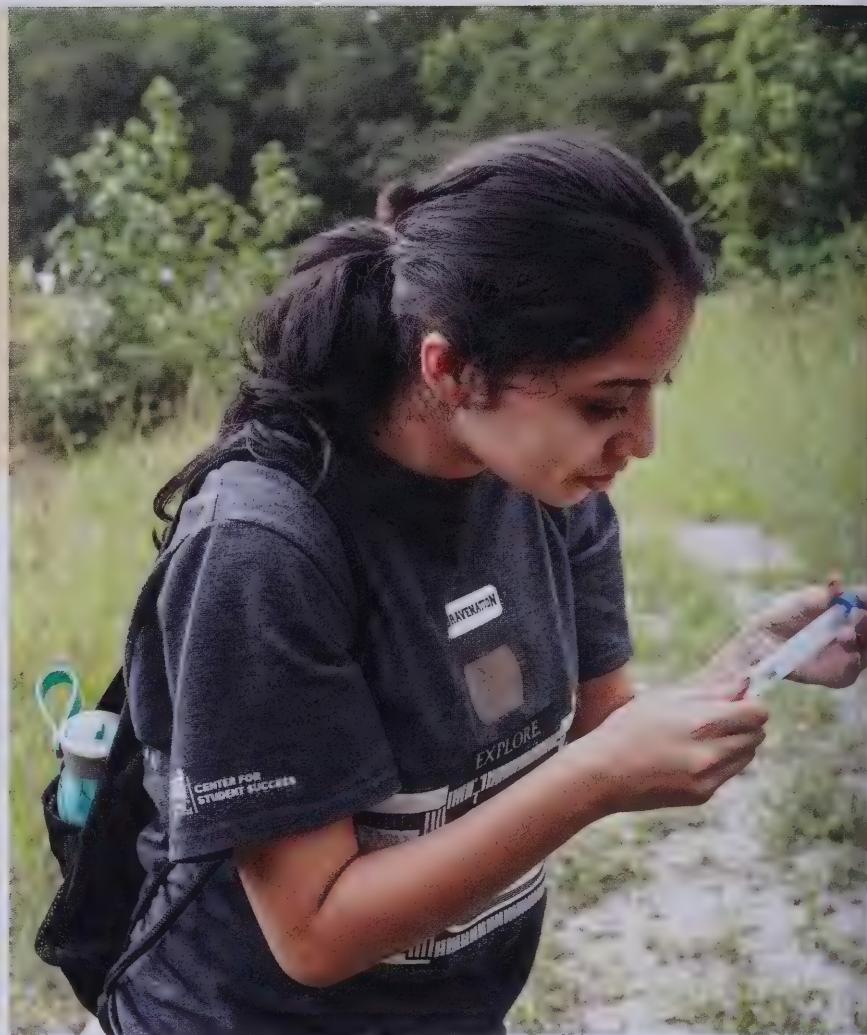
Exercise Physiology
Fayetteville

Alexuss Harris

Finance
Roanoke Rapids

Right: Bug samples aren't strange if it's entomology class.

Below: ROTC students engage in orienteering training.



Micah Harris

Information Technology
Charlotte

Cortavias Hatcher

Computer Science
Elizabethtown

Jalisa Hayes

Social Work
Red Springs



Alyssa Hernandez

Journalism
Hope Mills

Yamilkal Hernandez Sanchez

Political Science
Bayamon, Puerto Rico

Tyree Hilliard

Political Science
High Point





Morgan Collins

“You have the capability to change, but it all depends on if you want to change or not. Always look for change.”

Morgan T. Collins, who sometimes goes by the nickname Bunny, is from Charlotte. She came to UNCP to major in English with a minor in Legal Studies. She plans to further her education by going to law school after she graduates, to become a criminal justice attorney. Morgan enjoys her life on campus. She says she loves that she gets the feeling of being out on her own while also having so many others around her. She is involved in many things on and off campus, such as being a real estate appraiser, a photographer, a cosplayer and a “VTuber,” or virtual YouTuber, which is someone who uses an avatar when streaming. She is also a member of the Art Club and the Alpha Sigma Alpha sorority. Being in these organizations helped her come out of her shell as she started to interact with others and make friends.

Morgan has enjoyed her time at UNCP the past four years. She mentioned she is going to miss her sorority and the activities they did, such as volunteering at the Robeson County Humane Society. She said she'll miss all the wonderful professors she has had here and that she has loved watching the university evolve and grow in population. She says there has been so much change over the past few years and that is one thing she loves and strives to have in her own life, change.

Profiled by Kaileigh Carter



Kori Hosley

Psychology
Fayetteville

Byron Hunt

Biology
Pembroke

Elizabeth Hunt

Psychology
Lumberton



Whitney Hunt

Elementary Education
Laurinburg

Annaca Jackson

Sociology
Sunset Beach

Quadre' Jackson

Computer Science
Elizabethtown



Jason Long

“This was not the easiest path to a degree [commuting from Gastonia], but it proves hard work does pay off if you stick to it.”

Jason Long is a mass communications major from Gastonia, N.C. Despite beginning his education at UNCP as a business major, his love for writing and creating led him to mass communications. Jason has a job at a church where he does public relations and manages media content. Along with church and family, nature is one of the things that brings Jason peace in life. “For me, it’s a great place to reflect on my day and just life in general. I also really like taking pictures and walking around forests and mountains. It makes for some great photo opportunities. My wife and dog also really enjoy it, so it’s a very nice bonding experience with them as well.” Jason will miss the friendly vibe of UNCP the most.

While being a commuter student, Jason drove two and a half hours each way to campus, twice a week, for three semesters straight. He thanks his wife for going along with him so he would not have to make such a long drive alone. “She would even stay on campus for hours and hours waiting for me to complete my classes for the day. This was not the easiest path to a degree but it proves that hard work does pay off if you stick to it.” Jason encourages incoming freshmen to sit down with their advisors and find the major that is right for them. The “strangest thing” Jason did in college was lead a group survey. “It took me out of my comfort zone, but I’m glad I did it.”

Profiled by Antwan Sturdivant

Heather Jacobs

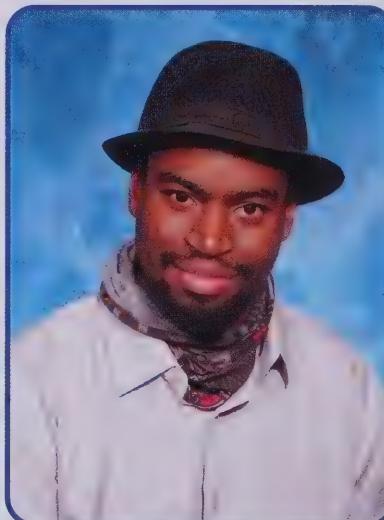
Sociology/Criminal Justice
Shannon

Adonis Johnson

Political Science and History
Council

India Jones

Elementary Education
Honolulu, HI



Khaile Jones

Exercise and Sports Science
Rowland

Landen Katz

Entrepreneurship
Beaufort

Ladeidra Kirk

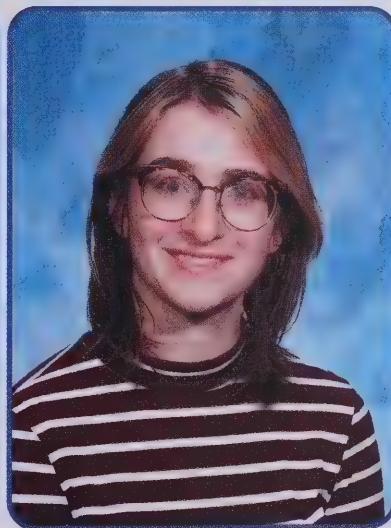
Sociology
Whiteville





Left: Student presentations were required at the end of the semester in Dr. Carla Rokes' art class.

Below: In-person career fairs came back in full force this year.



Kasey Knight

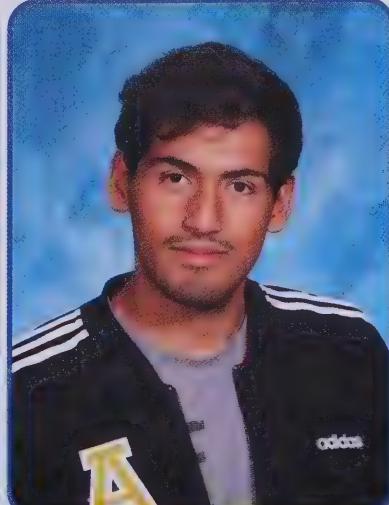
Elementary Education
Rockingham

Jenna Larkins

Biology
Fayetteville

Esther Lay

Birth-Kindergarten Education
Lumberton



Hunter Levy

Criminal Justice/Sociology
Huntersville

Kamren Lewis

Social Work
Sanford

Alejandro Lima Martinez

Computer Science
Calle del Rocio, Toluca, Mexico

Right: Club soccer is a great way to engage athletically with other schools, considering UNCP got rid of men's soccer in 2017.

Below: Cheerleaders on the Spirit Squad get fans psyched up at a football game.



Daniel Cocklear

Interdisciplinary Studies
Red Springs

Erika Cocklear

Social Work
Lumberton

Julia Cocklear

Broadcasting
Hope Mills



Selethia Cocklear

Birth-Kindergarten Education
Pembroke

Kailey Lopez

Information Technology: Cyber
Security
Fayetteville

Chavan Lowry

Interdisciplinary Studies
Lumberton





Dorothy McClenney

“Set goals in life and don’t get discouraged. Keep pushing no matter what the issue is. Always find ways to achieve something.”

Senior criminal justice major Dorothy McClenney is originally from Pembroke and is a member of the Lumbee Tribe, but she has lived in Fayetteville for 21 years. She's a non-traditional student and is earning her bachelor's degree online so that she doesn't have to commute. Dorothy is married with two sons in elementary school and runs her own business while also volunteering with the PTA in the Cumberland County Schools.

She completed her coursework last summer so that she could graduate in December. As an online-only student, she hasn't experienced anything strange at UNCP, because she rarely had to come to campus. Even the COVID-19 pandemic, which began in the spring semester of her first year here, didn't affect her means of taking classes. With her UNCP education she hopes to help people in the juvenile justice system. She liked her professors but says she's excited to graduate. Dorothy took some business classes while she was here and hopes to continue her business even after getting employment in her degree field. Her advice to underclassmen? "Set goals in life and don't get discouraged. Keep pushing no matter what the issue is. Always find ways to achieve something."

Profiled by Chyna Cooper



Jessica Ludlum

Finance
Marston

Kristin Marks

Sociology and Criminal Justice
Ellerbe

Amaia Marsh

Sociology
Winston-Salem



Antonio Martinez

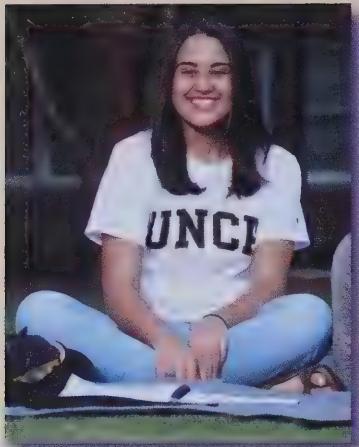
Exercise Physiology
Spivey's Corner

Bryan Martinez-Lopez

Chemistry
Dunn

Wilfredo Matul-Puac

Health and Physical Education K-12
Mount Olive



Khaile Jones

“You are no longer in high school and there will not be anyone holding your hand, reminding you of due dates or allowing you retakes on exams.”

Senior Khaile Fynese Jones, known as “Khi,” is from Rowland, N.C. It’s a small town with only one traffic light. She’s a transfer student from Sandhills Community College, where she played volleyball. Her major is exercise and sport science with a concentration in exercise physiology. She chose this major because of its similarities to occupational therapy, which she intends to pursue as a master’s degree. Khaile has played sports since she was seven years old, which enhances her knowledge of sports, wellness and fitness. She works part-time at the UNCP bookstore and as a work-study student in Central Receiving. She’s also a member of the Health Careers Access Program (HCAP), which enabled her to intern at a rehabilitation center to gain firsthand experiences with occupational and physical therapists.

Among her extracurricular activities was traveling to Duke University during football season, because her boyfriend is a running back on their team. She says the strangest thing that has happened to her during her time at UNCP was seeing herself on the school’s marketing materials. “I was honored to be part of a photo shoot in September 2021,” she said. She has seen many changes at the school, such as new buildings and new degree programs. “The best part of UNCP is that it is a truly diverse college, and it makes you feel like you belong.” For incoming students, her advice is, “Give it time. This will be an adjustment for many reasons.”

Profiled by Merrill Mack, II

Sarina Maynor

Office Administration
Pembroke



Dorothy McClenney

Criminal Justice
Pembroke



Sherry McCoy

General Studies
Raeford



Amani McDonald

General Studies
Long Beach, CA



Macey McKoy

Biology
Dunn



Donique McLaurin

Art
Maxton



Left: Jazmine Lorenzo powers through a race in Wingate, N.C.

Below: Students get ready for a movie on the SC lawn.



Sarah Morden

Biology
Fayetteville

Jerry Murray

Public Relations
Sanford

Tessa Newson

Psychology
Oberlin, OH

Giselle Ojeda

Political Science
Rockingham

Adriana Ortiz-Sanchez

Criminal Justice
Garland

Abigail Pack

Psychology
Greensboro

*Right: Nigel Freeman
is a senior majoring
in psychology.*

*Below: Daria Parker
gives thumbs up
during the Throwback
Spades Tournament
with alumnus Ramee
Treish during
Homecoming Week.*



Daria Parker

Journalism
Fayetteville



Erika Patterson

Elementary Education
Hope Mills



Ayanna Pearson

Cybersecurity
Raleigh



Eric Perez Velazques

Information Technology
Clarendon



Anayah Peterson

Journalism
Hope Mills



Alayna Powell

Elementary Education
Rowland





Bryan Martinez

“I like that new programs open up, as I see it as an opportunity for the college to expand its offerings and better meet the needs of students. I feel that new programs can bring fresh perspectives and ideas to the college community.”

Bryan Martinez is a chemistry major from Dunn, N.C. He's a first-generation college student and chose chemistry because it's a versatile field that can lead to a variety of career paths, including medicine, pharmacy, environmental science, academia and other research jobs. "A degree in chemistry can open up a broad range of opportunities, making it a valuable and flexible major," he said. Bryan plans to work in the chemical industry after college, where he would work in a laboratory situation. He appreciates the good professors he has known in his four years here and thinks that will help with employment opportunities. He was a research assistant for Dr. Cornelia Tirla in the Department of Chemistry and Physics.

Bryan lived on campus and was involved in the club soccer team, Chemistry Club and the UNCP Rocket Team, where he met a lot of people and made connections. The university has changed since he's been here. "I like that new programs open up, as I see it as an opportunity for the college to expand its offerings and better meet the needs of students," he said. "I feel that new programs can bring fresh perspectives and ideas to the college community, and that they can provide valuable career opportunities for graduates." He said it feels great to be a senior but knows it will also be "kind of sad to not be with friends anymore."

Profiled by Celeste Bonilla Aguilar



Haley Provencio

Special Education
Laurinburg

Samantha Quintero Segura

Birth-Kindergarten Education
Shannon

Pia-Alyese Reed

Applied Professional Studies
Youngstown, OH



Anna Register

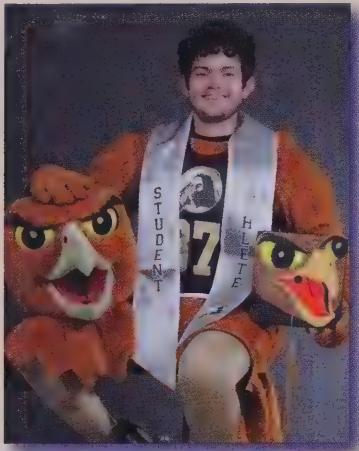
Social Work
Raynham

Ebony Renfrow

Entrepreneurship
Hope Mills

Kristie Revels-Hunt

Criminal Justice
Pembroke



Zane Fink

“The best part is unlocking my inner child and going nuts. He’s a free bird. You get to unlock that part of you that not a lot of people get to see.”

Zane Fink, secretly known for the last two years as **BraveHawk**, is a criminal justice major from Cameron, N.C., where he grew up with his parents and younger sister. He started out his freshman year as a UNCP wrestler at the 184-lb weight class and as a nursing major. He red-shirted but got some experience wrestling at two collegiate events as an unattached wrestler. He changed his major in his sophomore year and donned the mascot costume for the first time that spring. In a video interview published by Athletic Communications, Zane said it's been a great opportunity and privilege to be this member of the Spirit Squad. “Traveling as **BraveHawk** to other locations and being able to spread UNCP love and spirit to anyone outside of campus is a joy,” he explained. “It was an honor being able to bring **BraveHawk** to life for the students and people of Pembroke.”

Zane has made the Chancellor's List multiple times. Zane's hobbies include painting, and he's taking some art classes during his last semester here. He also likes playing Xbox, and he once reported that his favorite movie is “Venom” and his favorite group is The Score. He's a Chicago Bears fan. In addition to wrestling while at Overhills High School, he was an outside linebacker for the varsity football team and lettered in track & field as well.

Profiled by Jamie Litty

Sarah Reynolds

Art Education
Hope Mills



Alexis Richardson

Biology
Lumberton



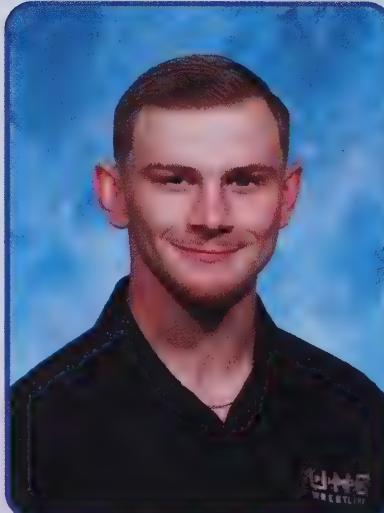
Leslie Rodriguez

Zoology
Stedman



Matthew Ross

Criminal Justice/Sociology
Lake City, FL



Jjane Sahm

Business Administration
Lumberton



Jacob Sawyer

Information Technology
Belvidere





Left: Students study in the foyer of Locklear Hall, with its mix of natural and artificial light.

Below: Fellow students helped to host the "passport fair" in the School of Business.



Anna Marie Sebastian

Criminal Justice
Charlotte

De'maurion Shelley

History
Fayetteville

Joshua Skinner

Environmental Science
Riegelwood



Joseph Smith

Informational Technology
Raleigh

Mary Smith

Social Work
Rockingham

Ryan Smith

Geography
Lillington

Right: Jeffrey Gunter playing kickball at the Alpha Phi Alpha Kickball game.

Below: Nick Rumbeau proudly wears his senior sash in the marching band.



Swetlana Solis-Garcia

Social Work
Statesville

Quatiesha Solomon
Finance
Newark, NJ

Antwan Sturdivant
Public Relations
Wadesboro



Massimo Sullivan
Criminal Justice
Hammonton, NJ



Niya Sutton
Criminal Justice
Raleigh

Arrell Swain Greene
Criminal
Justice/Sociology
Charlotte



Abigail Chabala

“The strangest thing that has happened to me during my time at UNCP would be being sent home my freshman year during COVID-19 and having to do the rest of my semester online. It took me a while to adjust to online classes because I like hands-on learning best.”

Abigail was born in Concord, N.C., but moved to China Grove when she was in first grade. She is a commuter student and feels like living off campus has prevented her from making new friends since she hasn't lived on campus her last two years. However, she was able to get a dog, Toby, which wouldn't have been possible if she lived on campus. Abigail is getting the B.S. in Mass Communications with a double major in journalism and broadcasting. She chose mass communications because she loves being creative and creating something new, and journalism and broadcasting allows for that. She likes how she can create films or stories that entertain and inform others. She currently works as a yearbook photographer and a Pine Needle reporter and photographer. The jobs have given her experience at what a job in her field of study may be like after college. “I am so excited that I'm a senior,” she said. “I plan on moving back to my hometown and getting married in 2024 and hopefully have a career working with video cameras and editing, because I truly enjoy that.” Abigail is involved in the college ministry, ECHO, which has allowed her to make some life-long friends, while growing closer to God. Outside of class, Abigail spends most of her time with her fiancé, Nick Golden, her best friend and roommate Hannah Bray, and Toby. Her hobbies include singing, painting, and laying in her hammock. She has met many people at UNCP that she says will continue to be significant in her life after she graduates.



Aanyah Sykes

Political Science/Psychology
Goldsboro

Aniyah Taylor

Business Administration/ Public Relations
Greensboro

Teondra Thomas

Zoology
Laurinburg



Summer Thompson

Psychology
Rockingham

Taylor Thompson

Criminal Justice
Raeford

Kenneth Threatt

Criminal Justice
Mooresville

Right: It's all smiles and no tears for these joyful graduates, future UNCP alumni.



Michaela Tisdale

Public Relations
Greensboro

Tynazia Towns

Exercise and Sports Science
Southern Pines

Mahala Treish

Journalism
Raleigh



Lyric Troy

Psychology
Lumberton

Brandon Turay

Broadcasting
Durham

Sophia Vazquez

Broadcasting
Raeford



Jaelyn Wilson

Psychology and Music
Fayetteville

Sean Yankaway

Exercise Physiology
Hope Mills





AlexAndriA Porter-Phelps

“You want to love your future career, not just do a job. Also, try not to compare yourselves too harshly to your peers. You're all on your own journey for what will make you happy.”

AlexAndriA Grace Porter-Phelps, who also goes by Allie, is a graduate student at UNCP. AlexAndriA is from a small suburb outside of Winston-Salem. She also spent several years in central Florida and Atlanta, where she received a Bachelor of Science in Psychology with a pre-med focus from Georgia State University. AlexAndriA is currently receiving a Master of Business Administration from UNCP. She chose this degree because, during the pandemic, she started her own business, All Thingz Allie. Her business has caused her to do everything from creating clothing to remodeling houses. AlexAndriA currently holds the title of Miss Pfafftown USA 2023 and is competing to become the newest Miss North Carolina USA 2023. “By the time I graduate, I may actually be Miss North Carolina USA 2023!” When AlexAndriA is not spending time with her family, she loves the performing arts. She even performed a musical theater number on Broadway in New York City with the Joffrey Ballet School. One of the things AlexAndriA loved most about UNCP was the diversity and inclusivity. “I will miss all of the gatherings the school offered its students, especially since as an online student you miss a lot of these.” AlexAndriA advises all entering freshmen to be themselves and let their interests guide them in deciding on a major. “You want to love your future career, not just do a job. Also, try not to compare yourselves too harshly to your peers. You're all on your own journey for what will make you happy.”

Profiled by Antwan Sturdivant

Brianna Kelly

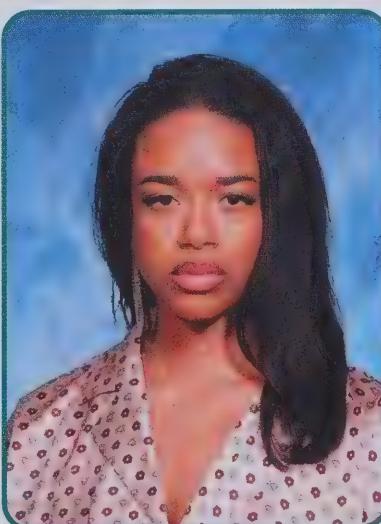
Social Work
Lumberton

Alexis Rogers

Social Work
Hope Mills

Esmeralda Sanchez

Social Work
Worcester, MA



Left: Alpha Sigma Lambda is the honor society for so-called nontraditional students.

Graduate Students





Graduate students make their mark on campus, and beyond, in many ways. This year students pursuing the M.A. in Sport Administration presented their original research at the annual College Sport Research Institute in Columbia, S.C. Pictured above, left to right, are Hannah Hilgeman, Chloe Phillips, Emily Rosak and thesis adviser Dr. Jessica Siegele. Taylor Styles (facing page) explains her subject matter and her painting process during her capstone exhibition for the M.A. in Art Education. Three members of the conference-champion golf team (left to right, Amanda Hamrin, Georgia Page and Samantha DeBusk) are graduate students in the Thomas School of Business. Jasmine Diaz (below) is a member of Phi Alpha, the social work honor society.



Staff and students like to dress for the festivities at hand, be they campus events or off-campus fun.



**Katherine
Aguilar
Manueles**



Alyse Coggin



Right: The main dining hall has gone through a variety of configurations





Alycia Artman

“Don’t rush life. Take your time and focus on the here and now. Adulting will come later.”

This is Alycia Artman, but she goes by Ally. Ally is from Hampstead, N.C., but she's originally from West Haven, CT. She lived in Connecticut until she was 13 and then moved to North Carolina in 2014. She is a commuter as of this year only because she got her first apartment. She says it hasn't affected her in the littlest bit because it's across the street from campus. Ally is a mass communication major on the journalism track. She chose this because she has always loved to write. Ally has a major-related job on campus; she is part of the paid Indianhead staff as a photographer. The job is extremely flexible and doesn't affect her studies. Ally is also a member of the indoor and outdoor track and field teams, where she is a thrower. This has enhanced her college experience at UNCP because it gave her a place on campus where she can find friends and a “home away from home.”

When Ally is not competing, she is normally hanging out with her dog and boyfriend, or working on her hobbies (crocheting, painting and reading). Ally says she has most definitely met people who will be dear friends for a good while after college, such as her best friend Jordan Majett and of course her teammates. The strangest thing that's happened to her here is probably witnessing a car explode in flames at The View apartments! Her advice to underclassmen? “Don’t rush life. You want to grow up so fast and be an adult so quickly when you truly haven’t experienced hanging with your friend until 3 in the morning or going to school sporting events. Take your time and focus on the here and now. Adulting will come later.”



Brittany Hovis



Angie Celrich



Whitney Peck



Gabrielle Richardson



Monica Shelton



Deshaunte Stephens



Katy Webb



Brandon Weir



Sheridan Rice

“Make sure you involve yourself in campus activities. It’s a great way to meet new people and maybe even help you connect with old friends. Being involved gives you great experiences and new friendships that will last a lifetime.”

Sheridan Rice is majoring in business management but hopes to switch to psychology soon. She is from Lumberton, just 20 minutes from the campus. Despite being a commuter, Sheridan said, “It hasn’t really affected my experience at UNCP because they have lots of activities and even have a Transfer and Commuter Center that holds special events for commuters like myself.” Sheridan currently works at an orthodontics office in Lumberton and believes that being a full-time student with a job has gotten her to change her ways. “It has definitely forced me to be more organized with my work and have better time management, which is something that I’ve always struggled with,” she said. Sheridan is part of a Christian fellowship here on campus called Cru. It’s helped her meet fellow Christians like her who are eager to learn more about God. “I love getting to know others that go to Cru, and it gives a wonderful opportunity to meet new people that also love Jesus or people that are interested in learning more about the Bible,” she explained.

Sheridan believes that UNCP has brought her life-long friendships through new and old friends. “It has rekindled some old friendships and brought me new ones that I never expected to meet.” One of the strangest things Sheridan has experienced here on campus was looking out the window of a car and seeing a random bra in the parking lot. Some advice she would give to incoming freshmen is “Make sure you involve yourself in campus activities. It’s a great way to meet new people and maybe even help you connect with old friends. Being involved gives you great experiences and new friendships that will last a lifetime.”

Profiled by Hannah Scrattish

April Autry



Diana Evans



Luke Fields



Liberty Finch



Daydrian Leake



Ethan Phillipi



Nicholas Wooten





Top: Students gather together and dance in the light party that was held in the auxiliary gym during Welcome Week.

Right: Freshmen make pony bead bracelets as part of the FLIGHT program held by New Student Programs.



**Demilade
Babarinde**

**Justus
Brewington**

**Tazanna
Cummings**

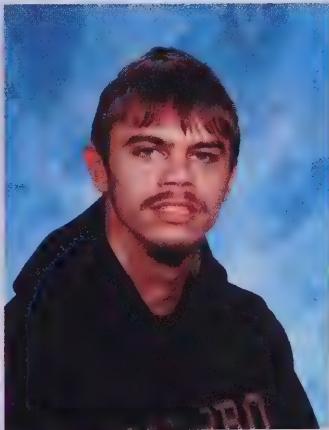
**Chantal
Fountain**

Gordon Jenkins

David Martin

**Angelina
Martinez**

**Derrick
Mitchell**



**Kimberly
Pelagio-Luis**

Amari Smith

**Verenise Villa
Vazquez**





Darren Vasquez

“Don’t work too much if you don’t have to. Get involved and enjoy the experience of being active on campus. There are so many opportunities and things you can gain by being involved.”

Darren Vasquez is a freshman majoring in information technology. He has always had a love for technology and working with many different gaming systems. Darren believed no other major would fit him as much as this one. He is a Pembroke native and attended Purnell Swett High School, so attending UNCP is right at home for him. He has many hobbies, and undoubtedly gaming is one of his favorites. When Darren isn’t gaming, working at WalMart Supercenter or attending school, he enjoys going to the gym and fishing. Considering that he lives so close, Darren commutes to campus. Although he enjoys saving money by living at home, he does feel like he has missed out on many activities and events. He says working at Wal-Mart is very time consuming. “It affects my ability to make time for homework, studying, and definitely leaves me too tired to hang out on campus,” he said. He is excited to possibly have more free time now because he just recently cut down the amount of hours he works at the store. Even on campus Darren mainly talks to his coworkers and old classmates from his high school.

So far Darren has enjoyed his time at UNCP. He likes meeting diverse individuals while still being surrounded by aspects of his native culture, as a member of the Lumbee Tribe. The one thing Darren found strange about campus is that he has struggled to find a parking spot on campus. Despite this, he says he’s having a great experience. Darren’s advice to incoming freshmen is, “Don’t work too much if you don’t have to. Get involved and enjoy the experience of being active on campus. There are so many opportunities and things you can gain by being involved.”

Profiled by Deshaunte Stephen



There are plenty of social activities for freshmen during Welcome Week in August before classes start!



Chancellor Ambassadors



The Chancellor Ambassadors is an honor organization with a selective application process for students who want to assist when the campus is visited by high-profile guests or during other distinguished events. Interviews for the group are held in the spring, and selection is based on knowledge of the university, campus involvement, leadership, academics and poise. The ambassadors must be full-time students maintaining at least a 3.25 GPA and are expected to attend regular meetings and be readily available to help host a variety of functions planned by the Office of the Chancellor. Their adviser is Chris Maples, UNCP's Executive Director of External Affairs.

Below, left to right: Brittany Best, Trinity Murray, Whitney Peck, Haleigh Grace



1) Hannah Evington and Jacob Oxendine

2) Gabe Hall and Genesis Gregory

3) Nicholas McNeill

4) Hannah Irving

5) Jaelyn Wilson

6) Jareyce Alexander (center front) and Morgan Dowdy (right)

Right: Dr. Carla Rokes helps a student get ready for a presentation in an art class.

Below: Dr. Kaitlin Campbell explains bug samples in entomology class.



Dr. Irene Aiken

Dean of Graduate School

Dr. Emilia Bak

Mass Communication

Cle Cousins

Mass Communication

Terence Dollard

Mass Communication



Dr. Namyeon Lee

Mass Communication

Dr. Jamie Litty

Mass Communication

Dr. David Nikkel

Philosophy & Religion

Sara Oswald

English, Theatre & World Languages



Right: Prof. Adam Walls teaches sculpture in the Art Department.

Far Right: Dr. Roger Ladd talks to Dr. Melissa Schaub and Dr. Robin Snead, all English faculty.





Prof. Dollard & Comic Culture

Terence Dollard, MFA, has taught broadcasting for decades and worked in the industry just as long. He's also a comic book and superhero enthusiast with a weekly interview program called "Comic Culture" that's shot in the TV studio in the Department of Mass Communication. The show airs on The North Carolina Channel, a service of PBS North Carolina that focuses on civic affairs, education and entertainment. Using the internet to bring comic book artists, writers and publishers to the studio via Zoom, Prof. Dollard explores the creative process, career paths and major influences of a wide range of creators.

"When I was growing up, comics weren't cool," Dollard said. "If you read comics, you kept it to yourself. Today, comics are mainstream. They are hit films and TV shows, inspired by the work of men and women who produced stories on paper every month with little fanfare. On 'Comic Culture' I get to hear how they crafted their complex stories in this commercial context. I get to speak with legends and rising stars, writers and artists, editors and scholars."

"Comic Culture" is the only series produced and delivered by a UNC-system faculty member to the state's public television service, and it's also available on-demand at www.pbs.org. Students enrolled in the broadcast practicum get valuable experience for their resumes. A student directs the dozen episodes each semester while other students serve in all the crew positions. Prof. Dollard started the show back in 2012 with in-person studio guests, but soon they were using Skype, and now Zoom, to feature creators as far away as Italy and Israel. The series was picked up by The North Carolina Channel in 2017. It airs on Sunday nights at 11:30 on digital broadcast channel 31.4 in our area.



Left: Prof. Dollard is surrounded by crew including Autumn Wright, Zel Ordillas and Sophia Vazquez directly behind him (left to right).



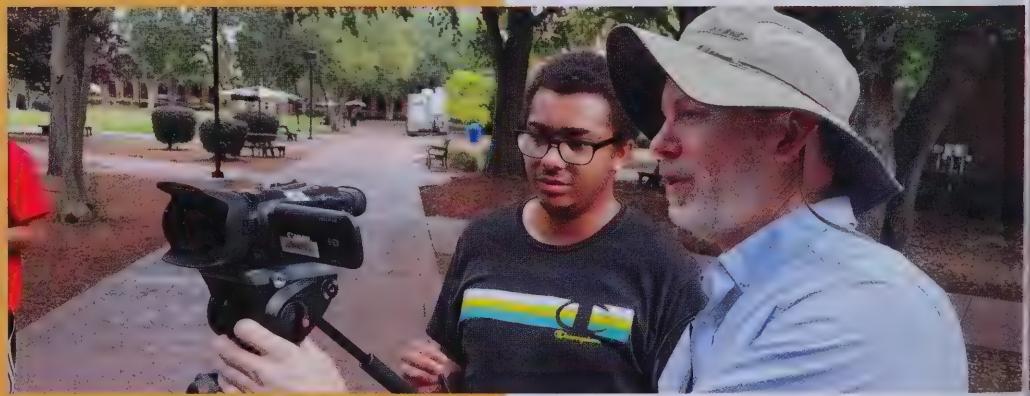
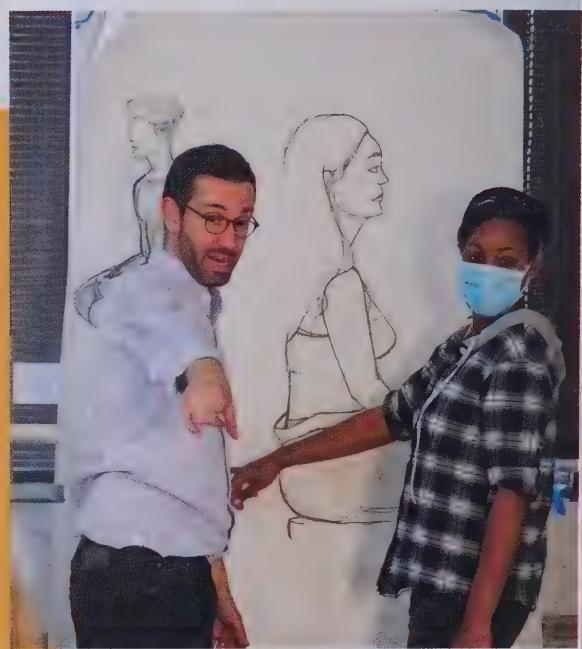
Above: Prof. Dollard interviews John Rose, who works on the *Snuffy Smith* comic strip.

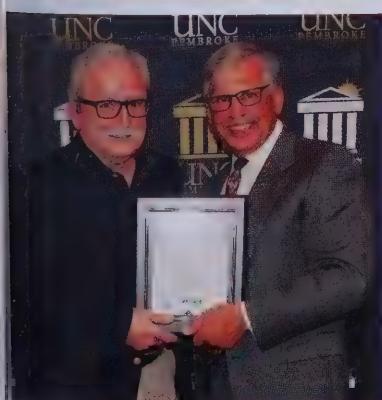
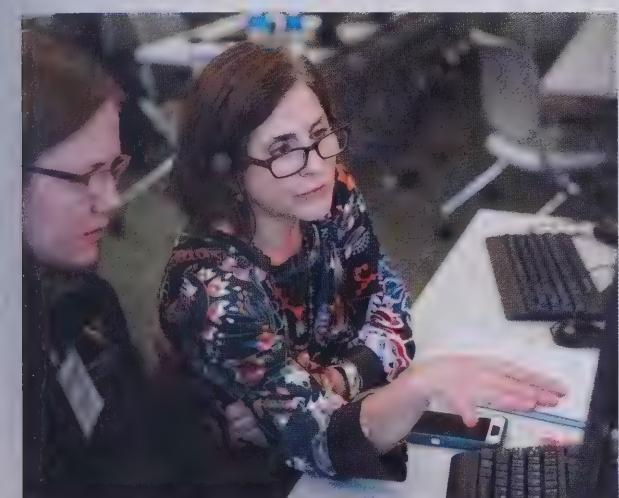


Above: Zel Ordillas ('22) runs camera during an interview on location at HeroesCon in Charlotte.

Right: Prof. Robb Epps of the Dept. of Art looks at the work of a UNCP alumnus who stopped by the Comic Culture booth at HeroesCon 2022 in Charlotte.









Left to Right: Dr. Ashley McMillan, Director of the American Indian Heritage Center, Chuck Lowery, engineering technician for WNCP-TV; head football coach Shane Richardson, Athletic Director Dick Christy and Chancellor Cummings at pep rally.

Alisha Anyachonkeya
Campus Engagement



John Dunlap
Career Services



Tony Chavis
Athletics



Sallyann Clark
Mass Communication

Brandyn Crumbley
Division of IT

Patti Deese
Housekeeping

Phyleneia Latney
Community Engagement

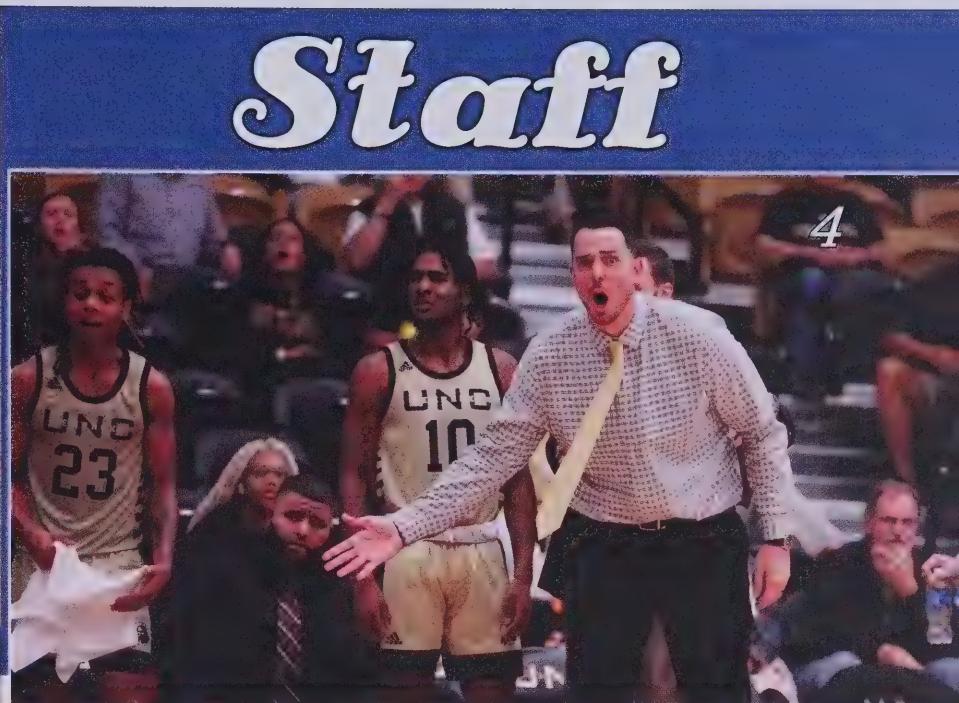
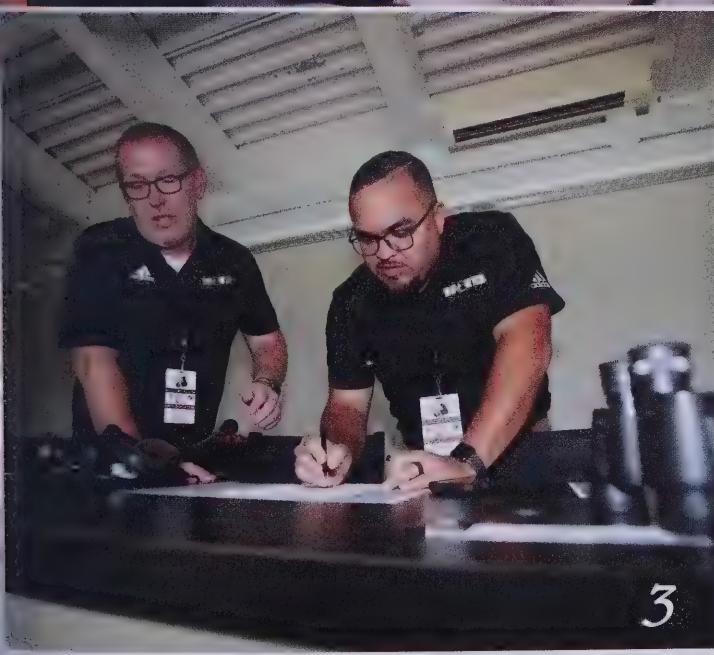
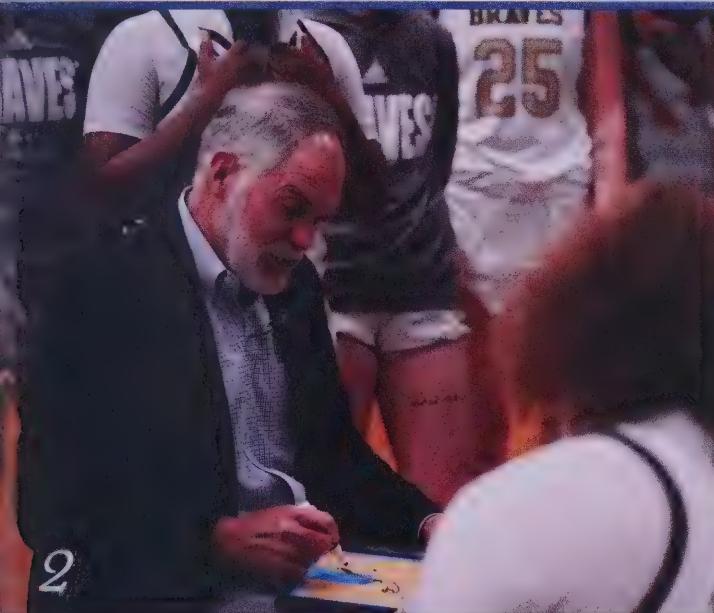
Michael Litty
Communications &
Marketing

Evan Long
Community Engagement

Morgan Sheehan
Athletics

Wanda Hunt
Division of IT

Staff



1) Krystal Dean, an alumna who works in the library (left) celebrates staff service awards with Sallyann Clark of WNCP-TV. 2) Coach John Haskins is the long-serving coach of the women's basketball team. 3) Todd Anderson of Athletic Communications (left) works pre-production with football PA announcer Wyvis Oxendine.

4) Head Coach Drew Richards is a loud advocate for the men's basketball team. 5) The Sodexo catering staff work many long hours. 6) Kirsten Kirschbaum (left) is in charge of student engagement for Athletics and works with fellow students such as Katelyn Willoughby.

The Room Where it Happens



Above: Athletics Director Dick Christy uses an iPad to control his presentation.

Left: Chief Counsel Kelvin Jacobs and Chief Communications Officer Jennifer McCarrel follow the presentation displayed on one end of the room.



Left: Gabriel Eszterhas honors UNCP retirees at the 2022 Retirement Celebration Dinner.



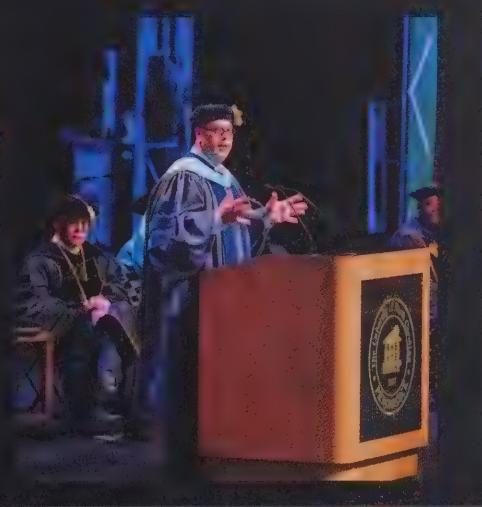
Right: Chris Maples speaks to students at the dinner for Chancellors Ambassadors.

Room 423 Lumbee Hall is known as the Chancellor's Boardroom. That's where top officials that are together known as the chancellor's "cabinet" meet for top-level decision-making that impacts the direction of the university now and for years to come. This year the cabinet featured long-time campus experts and some new faces. Interim Provost (Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs) Dr. Cherry Beasley was appointed in January after the strangely short term of Dr. Marsha Pollard, who had been hired just six months earlier. Dr. Beasley was the university's first faculty member in Nursing back in 1992 and has served in many capacities since then, including as department chair and associate dean. Dr. Jeff Howard, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, joined UNCP in 2021. He is responsible for all kinds of activities, programs and resources related to student life, organizations, the Chavis Student Center and campus housing. Athletic Director Dick Christy leads finances, facilities, staffing, marketing and fund raising related to the development of the student-athlete and public-facing sports programs. Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration Gabe Eszterhas functions as the chief financial officer of the university. As General Counsel, Kelvin Jacobs is the lead attorney for UNCP. Steve Varley is the head of Advancement, the main fund raising department. Jennifer McCarrel joined UNCP in January as the Chief Communications and Marketing Officer. Chief of Staff is Mark Gogal, who also serves as assistant to the Board of Trustees.



Left to Right: Chris Maples, Gabriel Eszterhas, Cherry Beasley, Kelvin Jacobs, Jennifer McCarrel, Steve Varley, Dick Christy, Chancellor Cummings and Jeff Howard

Dr. Jeff Howard
welcomes first-year
Convocation event
August 15 in GPAC.



Left: Dr. Beasley speaks to Mark Gogal at the 2022 Faculty Appreciation Banquet, unaware she'll be provost before she retires.



Right: Steve Varley mingles with guests at the Science Life Celebration in the Chancellor's Dining Room.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS UNCP



FROM





GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT



As international travel became increasingly permissible as the dangers of the COVID-19 pandemic began to recede, student exchange and faculty-led study abroad resumed. International students came to study at UNCP and shared their culture and language with American peers, at events such as the lunar new year expo and a language button exchange (facing page). Some marched in the Parade of Nations during the International Folk Festival held Sept. 24 - 25 in Fayetteville after a two-year hiatus. Milagros Lopez-Fred and Dr. Natalie Love took their students to Segovia in Spain (below), and the Acto Latino club went to Madrid in the fall with Dr. Ana Cecilia Lara (facing page, top left) to stage a drama with students at another university.



TEDx UNCPembroke

On Feb. 11 UNCP hosted its first ever TEDx event. This Saturday event was organized by three Honors College students, Hannah Irving, Peace Ajirotu and Jaelyn Wilson, as officers of the Alpha Chi National Honor Society chapter at UNCP. Attendees gathered in the Upchurch Auditorium in James A. Thomas Hall to hear 10 speakers on the theme of “Innovation, Collaboration, Scholarship.” Topics ranged from getting rid of fear and doubt in your life, to mindfulness, to the benefits of globalization. The event opened with Miss Lumbee, Mahlea Hunt, providing a musical dedication, and Dr. Joshua Busman, Assistant Dean of the Esther G. Maynor Honors College, providing welcoming remarks. The event was also live-streamed so those unable to attend in person could watch from home (or watch later on YouTube). At the closing of the event, the co-organizers Hannah, Peace and Jaelyn received a standing ovation for the great job they did putting it together. Although they’re graduating, they hope it can be an annual event.



Above: Darrell Forte tells the audience how to "Fight Your FUD For Your Freedom"

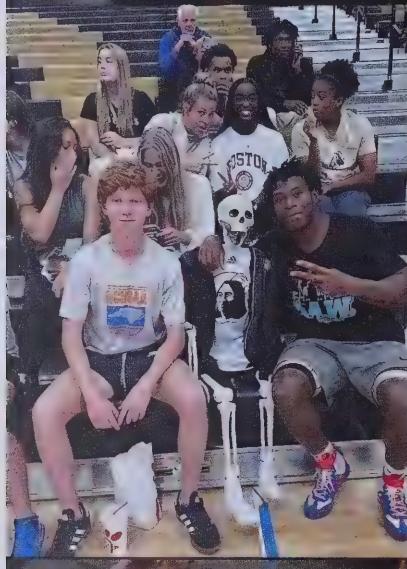
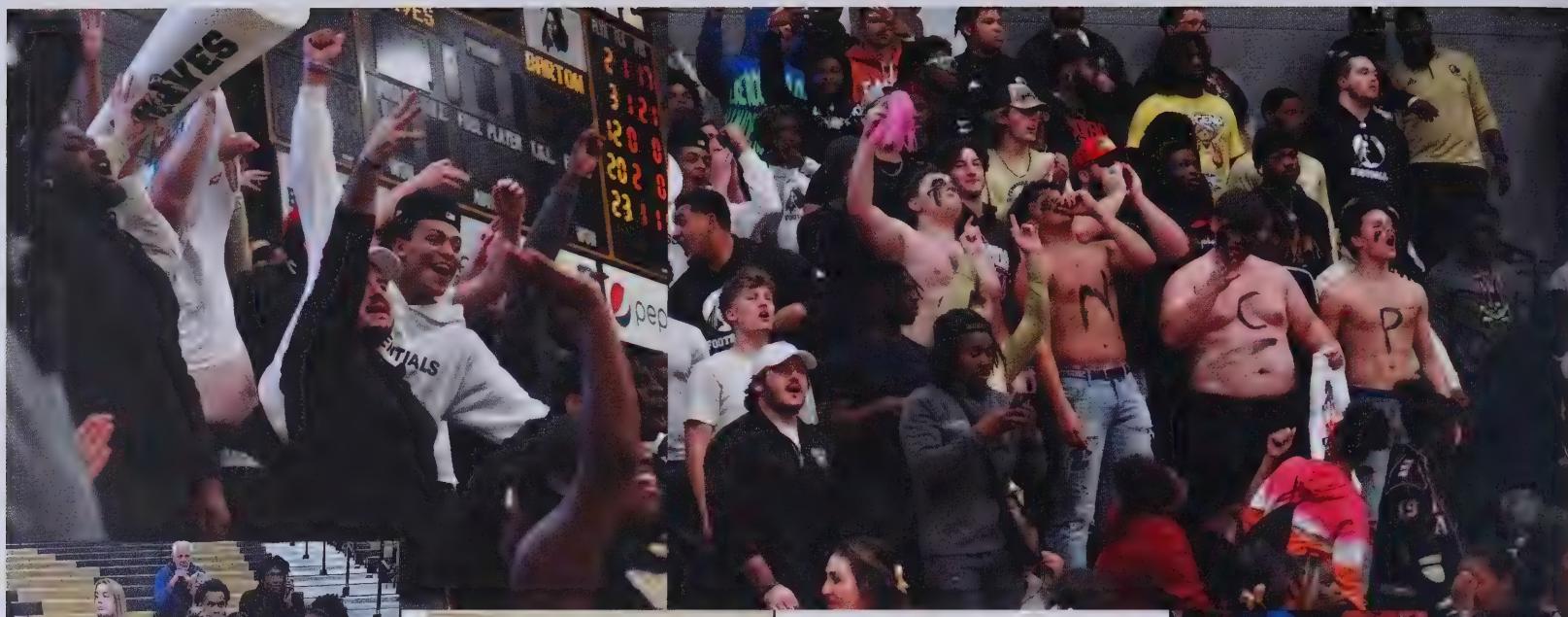


Left: Dr. Calvina Ellerbe describes "How to Become a Child Whisperer."



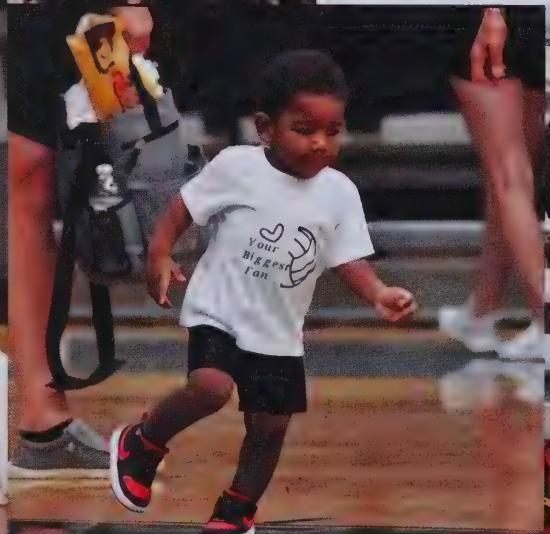
Far Left: Miss Lumbee Mahlea Hunt performs traditional music.

Left: (L to R) Co-organizers Jaelyn Wilson, Hannah Irving and Peace Ajirotu



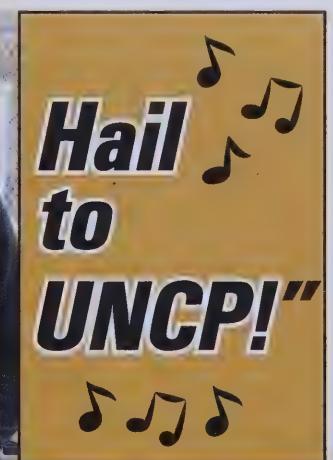
The Braves fans are always down to support and bring the heat down on the opposing teams from up in the stands. A lot of students go all out with their Braves apparel, team spirit and high energy. Having had such a successful year in sports, it was easy to get excited cheering the Braves on!

Fandom connected us this year despite the infamous bad weather. 2022-23 saw some strange complications with the weather raining out both the Homecoming and Senior night football games in the fall, thanks to Hurricane Ian. Spring sports have also seen strange cancellations with the rainfall being almost an inch above normal for 2023.





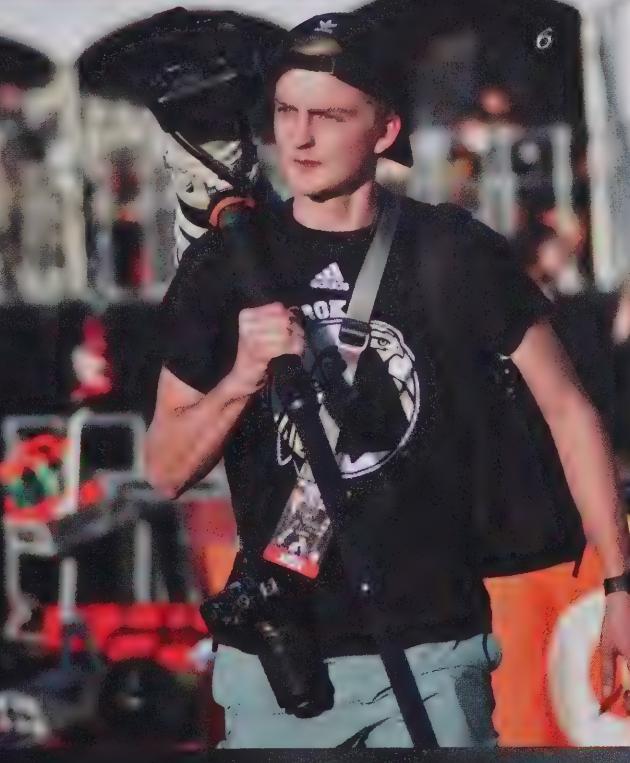
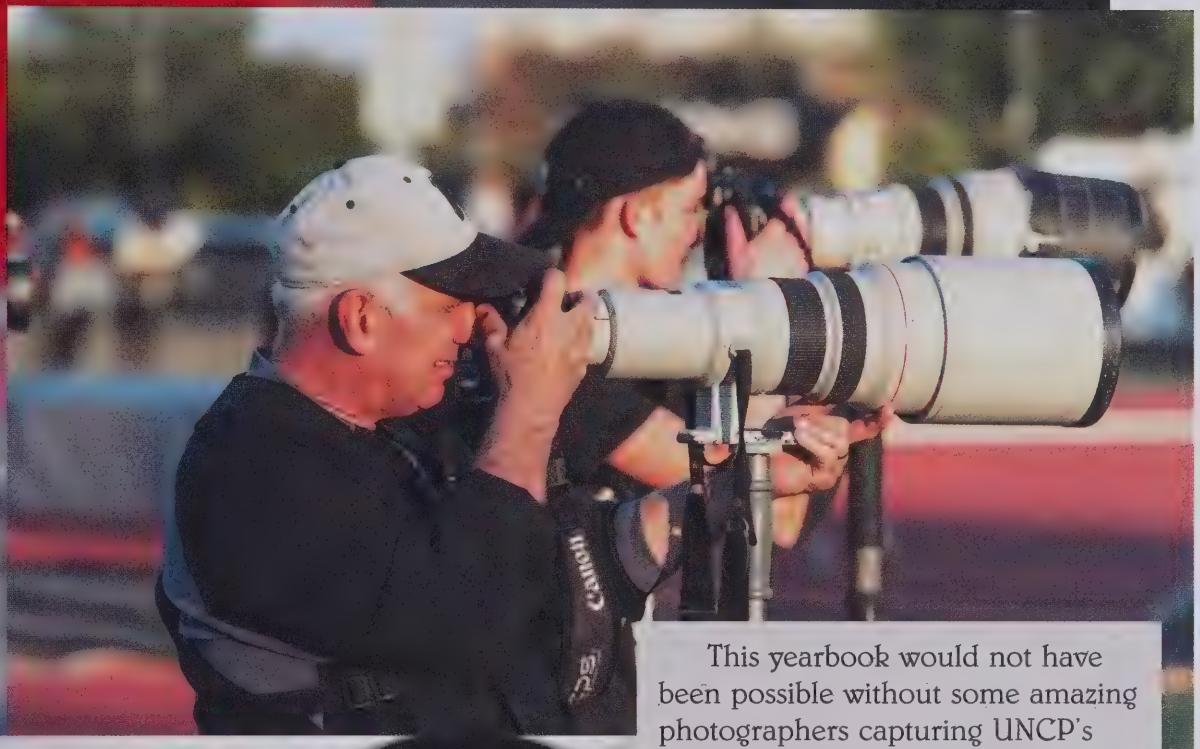
"Where Carolina's lofty pine trees pierce the southern blue,
Proudly stands our Alma Mater, courageous, strong and true!
Black and gold float on forever, symbol of loyalty! Pembroke, our Alma Mater. . .



Unsung Heroes

- 1) Michael Litty
- 2) Abigail Chabala
- 3) Willis Glasgow
- 4) Mykayla Brady
- 5) Alycia Artman
- 6) Gabe Blackwelder





This yearbook would not have been possible without some amazing photographers capturing UNCP's best moments. These otherwise unsung heroes went to many events during the school year and worked countless hours taking photos so we can have our memories to look back on many years down the road. We're grateful to University Communications & Marketing for letting us use photos taken by Willis Glasgow, Michael Litty, and intern Gabe Blackwelder. Several people in yearbook class also took photos, but our dedicated staff photographers captured the lion's share of the UNC Pembroke experience: Alycia Artman, Mykayla Brady and Abigail Chabala. Thanks also to several departments and individuals who provided photos from locations or opportunities we missed or couldn't know about.

UNCP Yearbook



A Tribute to Sara Oswald



Ms. Oswald joined Pembroke State University in the fall of 1987 and took over as adviser to the Indianhead for the 1988-89 school year.

Sara Oswald is in her 35th year of working on the Indianhead and has passed the torch to Dr. Jamie Litty, who functioned as adviser to the organization and instructor of the yearbook sections this year, while Ms. Oswald explained best practices and taught the software in the fall to newly involved students. Ms. Oswald is a lecturer in English, but for the Department of Mass Communication she teaches the publication design course (formerly "computer-assisted editing and design"), where students also helped to work on some pages of this year's book. Many years ago, the major tracks in English, theatre, and mass comm were all in one big Department of Communicative Arts, but they were split up in 1998, and Ms. Oswald got caught in between, with yearbook production being a journalism credit in Mass Comm. She has seen numerous changes in photography equipment and



photo media and in graphic design technology for making paper publications such as this book, and she learned them all! Ms. Oswald is a former Adviser of the Year and has been inducted into UNCP's Adviser Hall of Fame. The Indianhead was founded in 1946, which means Ms. Oswald has taught and mentored its student staff for nearly half of the annual's existence. She has seen the office and lab move from Dial to the Annex to Wellons to Old Main.



teacher and adviser

The book and individual students have won many commendations from the Columbia Scholastic Press Association, where Ms. Oswald has also taught graphic design, and from the North Carolina College Media Association, where she has also been a judge and has chaperoned students for their annual conference. Her first volume of the Indianhead was 240 pages, and the student editors thanked her for "immeasurable patience, heroic endurance, and unwavering professionalism."

business manager & photographer

Ms. Oswald planned the budget annually and has seen the student fees rise and fall over the years. She had to change yearbook companies and portrait companies several times. As Indianhead adviser, she had to rotate in as chair of the Student Publications Board. She's an avid photographer and could often be seen taking photos when student staff were unavailable, such as during May graduation ceremonies.



mentor and friend

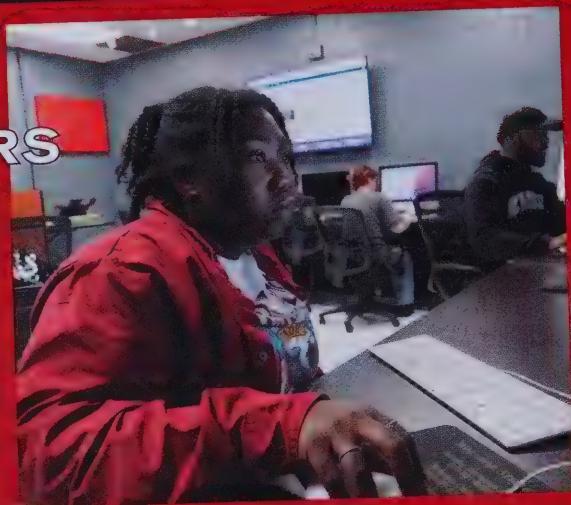
In closing remarks of the book, editors regularly praised Ms. Oswald as a great friend and leader and a wizard! They thanked her for her patience, encouragement and for "going the extra mile." She never asked to get out of doing the yearbook even though she's been doing it since her second year as a faculty member at PSU.

Ms. Oswald has seen many chancellors and vice chancellors come and go over the years, as she continued to rack up milestones in service to the state of North Carolina.

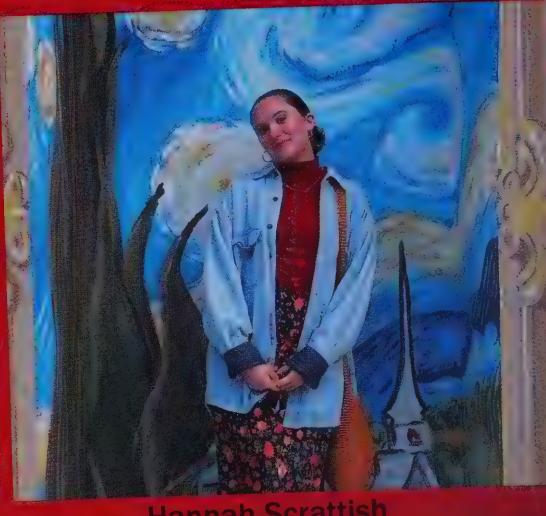
CONTRIBUTORS

Some students could only take the yearbook class for one semester but helped with theme development, planning, photography or writing.

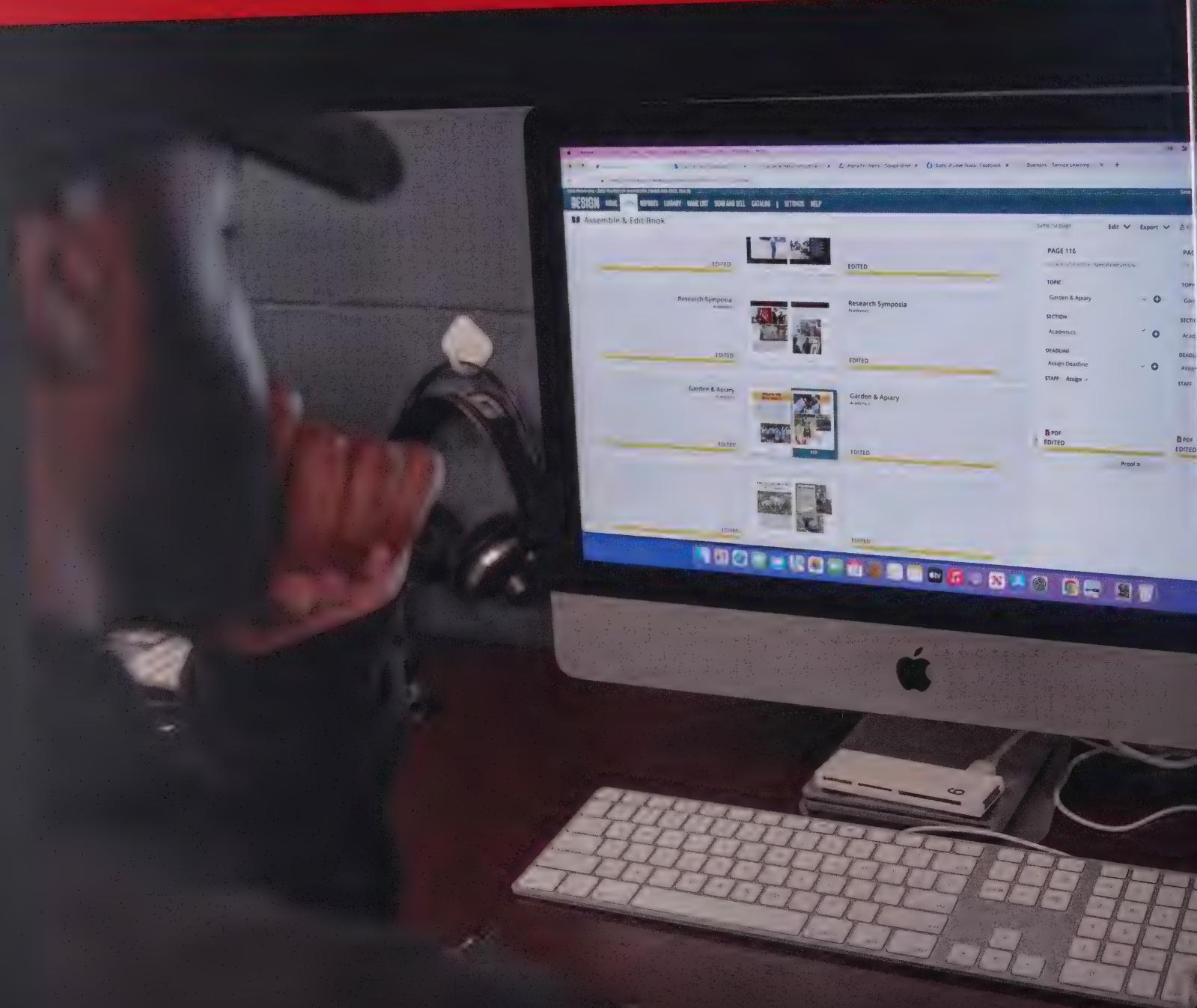
Others stuck it out for the whole year, in paid or unpaid positions.



Deshante Stephens



Hannah Scrattish





Ally Artman & Dr. Litty



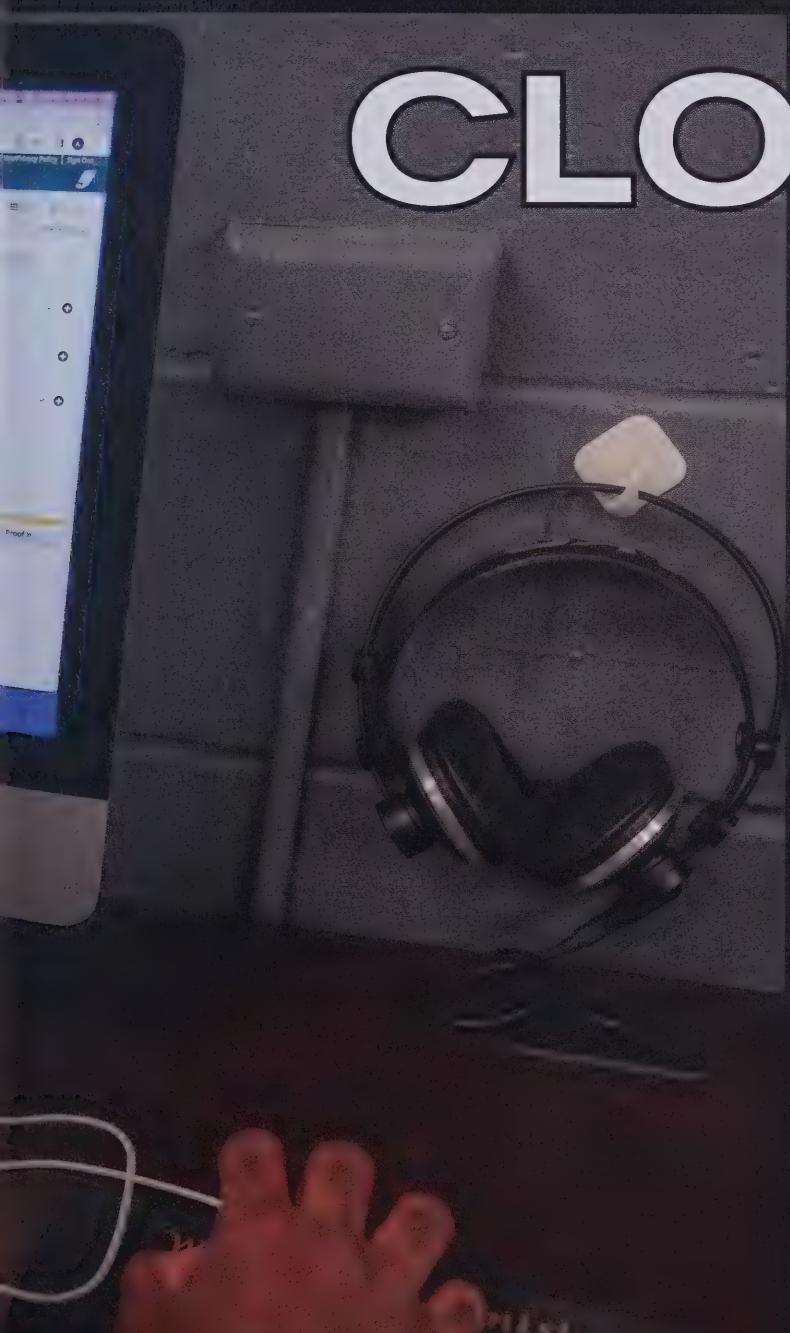
Nicole Cook



Joshua McEachern

CLOSING

FROM YOUR EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



I am very thankful for everyone who played a part in making this yearbook successful. I want to express my gratitude for all the support the UNCP community provided in creating this year's volume. The theme chosen by the student body was fantastic, and the eager participation to bring the contents of the book to life was truly heartwarming.

To the section editors, photographers, interns, and class members, I deeply appreciate your countless hours of hard work and dedication. You all played vital roles in the outcome of this book, and I am extremely proud of what we accomplished. I'd also like to thank the longtime previous Indianhead adviser, Ms. Sara Oswald. You lent a helping hand and offered invaluable advice to help make this process as manageable as possible. You succeeded in your role for decades, and I'm fortunate I had the chance to learn from someone with your passion and expertise.

Another thank you goes to the current yearbook adviser, Dr. Jamie Litty. I was new to a position like

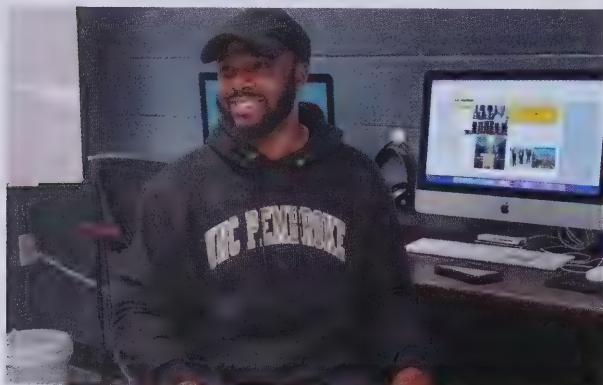
(continued from previous page)

this, and you patiently guided me through every step. You displayed what a leader should be, and I will take that with me beyond the completion of this book. There is no way this yearbook would have been completed without your direction and major contributions. Thank you for your tireless work and encouraging leadership. After so many meetings, emails and messaging, there is a sense of rewarding relief that we made it to this point.

I would also like to send a special thank you to Shannon Spaulding and Jaylan Staten of the Herff Jones Company. Thank you for your assistance and support while helping us complete this volume. I am forever grateful for everything I learned during this process. I had the opportunity to learn and grow alongside amazing people, and I took full advantage of it.

To our readers: While the moments frozen in this book only amount to a fraction of everything that occurred throughout the year, my hope is that it will bring you joy to reflect on these moments, no matter how **strange** they may have been.

-Antwan Sturdivant, Editor-in-Chief



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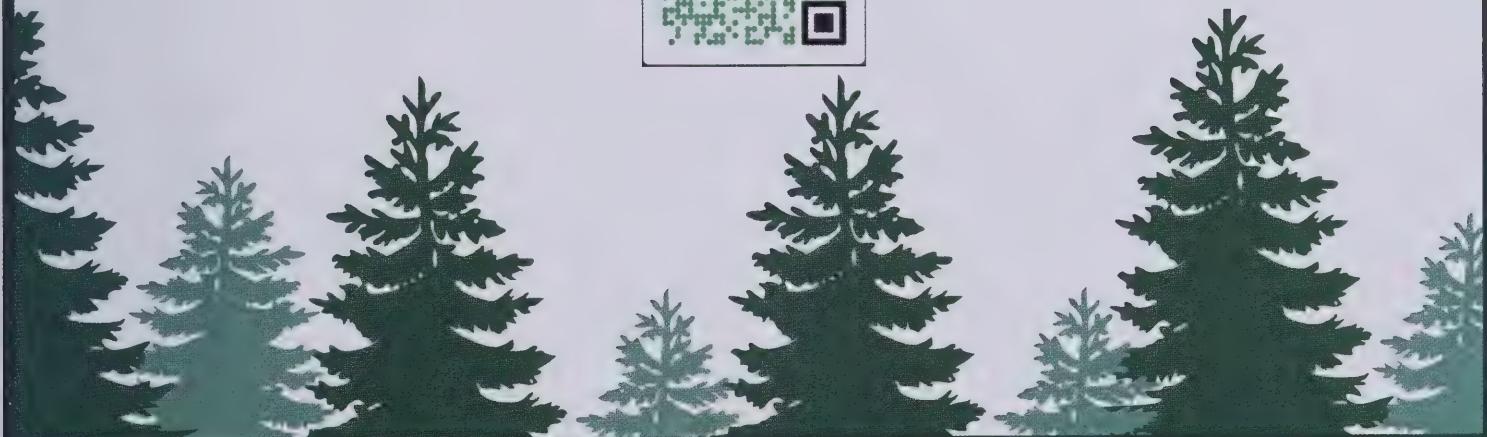
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Look for us at the part-time job and volunteer fair or on Handshake. We have a limited number of paid positions while funding lasts, but volunteers are welcome to enroll in JRN 1820, 1830 or 1840 Yearbook Production for one credit pass/fail. We always need photographers, writers, fact-checkers, editors, promoters, and an advertising sales team. You can also enroll in Student Newspaper Production JRN 1610 - 4620 to learn journalism as a reporter, editor, photographer, etc., for The Pine Needle. Follow [uncpyearbook](#) and [uncp_pineneedle](#) on Instagram!

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